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Wherein the Treachery of Evil Counsel is discovered, the Innocency of harmless Virgins cleared, and the Wisdom of Seven Wise Women displayed, to the Wonder of their own Nation, and the Admiration of all the World.

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To learn to live, to Read, to know,
Thou art Commanded to;
To live to learn, to know, to Read,
All theſe things thou muſt do,
Then learn to Read, and Read to know,
If thou wouldſt learn to live;
And Read to learn, what I have Writ,
Which will not thee deceive.

Tho. Howard.

THE

THE HISTORY OF THE Seven Wiſe Miſtreſſes OF ROME.

SOmetime in *Rome* there lived a goodly and renowned Empreſs, named *Lucretius*, a Lady of great Virtue and marvellous Wiſdom: ſhe was ſole Heireſs, born to the Emperial Crown, and eſpouſed the Son of a King, who was a rich and glorious Prince, and honoured above all others, being gracious to his Empreſs, loving to his Subjects, and amiable to all; ſhe conceiv'd by him, and bare him a Daughter, named *Sabrina*, the faireſt in all the World. This *Sabrina* grew moſt beautiful, lovely and comely, and eſteemed by all the People in that ſame Land, the only Jewel throughout the whole Empire; and it happened, that about the ſixth Year of her Age, there was one Province within the King her Father's Dominions, which cauſed many Inſurrections, Mutinies, and Rebellions to be made againſt their Soveraign, which

required the King to make the more haste for Suppression thereof, lest by their Rudeness they should gather together a Force too considerable for his Strength to reduce; thereupon he beat his Drums, pitcht his Royal Standard, and summoned all his Lords and noble Barons of his Realm to appear, and with a mighty Army hasted to suppress the rude Multitude which had rebelled; but the Weather proving unconstant and various through Heat and Cold, he chanced by the Way to fall sick of a Feaver, and lying without Hopes of Recovery, he considered more the Education of his young Daughter, than the State and Condition of his whole Empire, in reference to the Innocency and Weakness of her Age; and therefore it induced him to write to his Empress the following Letter:

Dear Lady,

My Journey has proved very unsuccessful to me, for by the Way I am taken sick with a most sad and grievous Feaver; therefore pray make haste unto me, that we may provide for the Education of our young Daughter Sabrina, *and the State and Settlement of our Empire, for I am without Hopes of Recovery, and if you make not great speed, you are never like to see me alive.*

The Messenger posted away to the Empress, and finding her walking in the Garden, expecting every Hour News from her beloved Husband, he did Reverence unto her, and delivered her the Letter; the Empress broke it up, and reading what Condition her Lord was in, fell in a Swond, to the Astonishment of all her Ladies: but as soon as she had recovered Life, she caused her Chariot and Horses to be made ready, and hasted both Night and Day till she came to her Lord the King, whom she found almost dead, and she fell upon his Breasts, and kissed his clay-cold Lips,

he

he rising half up in his Bed, with Showers of Tears be-twixt each Face, spake thus to her:

O, my dear Lady it rejoyces me that you are come, that I may impart my troubled Mind to you, since I

may not escape this Infirmity: The Natural Love and Care I bear unto you, and your young Daughter *Sabrina*, makes me sue unto you thus: First, That you cause her to brought up with the best experienced and wisest Matron in all the Realm, whereby she may be tutored and well educated in all Arts and Sciences, befitting a Princess so nobly descended. And after that she hath attained unto all those Vertues, I will that you take her home to your Royal Palace, and to have Recourse to my honourable Council, whereby she may perfect herself in all State and Temporal Affairs. And thirdly, That after your Decease, she may enjoy the Empire, and wear the Diadem. And you, my dear Lady, considering you are old and well-stricken in Years, I will that you chuse, by the Advice of your honourable Councel, a wise and grave Senator to al-

sist your Royal Person in all things appertaining to the Affairs of the Empire, and Guardian to your young Daughter *Sabrina*, till she come to Maturity. The grieved Empress answered, My dear Lord, all these things shall be performed and done according to your Will and Request. Then kissing each other, the King turned himself upon the Pillow, and gave up the Ghost; and afterwards was conveighed into his own Country, and his doleful Funeral solemnized, being honourably interred in his own Chappel.

CHAP. I.

How the Empress and her Council commited the Charge of her Daughter Sabrina *to seven Wise Mistresses, for her Educatien in all Arts and Sciences.*

IT happened upon a time as the Empress was solitarily walking in her Garden, she bethought herself of the Death of her late Husband; and musing in her Heart of the Words he spake unto her at his last Breath, concerning the State of his Empire, and especially his

young

young Daughter *Sabrina*, whose only Delight in all the World she was, muttered in her Heart, and said,

Now my dear Lord and Husband is dead and gone, there is but one in the World whom I take Pleasure in, and that is my only Daughter *Sabrina*, the very Flower and Glory of all other Virgins, and but she alive to inherit my Realm after me; it is good whilst she is young that she be sent unto some wise experienced Matron, who is a holy and devout Virgin, to learn Understanding, and to resolve Reasons when time may require it upon the Judgment-seat. Thereupon the Empress assembled all the Lords of her Councel before her, and demanded of every one his Advice concerning her young Daughter *Sabrina*; and some of them gave their Advice, that the Empress should build a Tower within her own Castle, and cause to be put in there the young Lady, with five devout and wise Virgins to attend her, and two Philosophers which then lived in *Rome*, to instruct her in Natural Philosophy, and other Arts and Sciences: Bnt the other Lords of the Council would not agree thereto, and stood up and said to the Empress thus:

Most Sovereign Lady, this is not expedient that she should be in such Tower, nor in such a Way instructed for three things:

First, If she be in such a Tower, your Nobles and Ladies that frequent your Palace by too often visiting her, will make her mind more the Pleasures of the Court, than to practice Learning.

Secondly, Men-tutors are not meet for such a Princess so incomparable in Beauty as she is, for through too much Familiarity and Weakness of her tender Years, great Injuries may ensue, and her Princely Vertues stained.

Thirdly, For her Attendants being but five weak Ladies, and consequently not over-skilful, might, for

Hopes

Hopes of a future Advancement, to please the young Lady, give her too much Liberty in yielding to her Fancies, and thereby destroy the best time of her Study.

But, gracious Lady, there is living not far from this City, in a fair and stately Cloister, seven Wise Mistresses, most cunning and expert in Wisdom, answering all Reasons and Questions; and for their famous Skill and Learning excel all Women in the World.

The Empress hearing this, agreed to their Advice, and sent her Letter of Summons unto them, upon great Penalties to appear before her Majesty: They anon came, and the Empress demanded the Cause of their coming?

They answered, We shall resolve you the Cause, for we have seen it in a Dream, which was this: we saw a high and mighty Tree whose Branches covered all the Realm, under whose Leaves the Beasts of the Earth did shelter without Number; and in an Instant we saw it fall and dissolve, that nothing but the Roots remained obvious.

The Empress said, Shew me the Meaning thereof?

They said, The Tree which we saw, was our Sovereign Lord the King, the spreading Branches, signified his Power extending over all his Empire; when the Tree falling, it signified our Lord died, out of whose Roots is sprung up a young Cien, who shall rule the Empire with Equity and Honour, whose Learning and Education you will commit to our Charge.

You have said right, answered the Empress, for my Lord is dead and I have but one only Daughter in all the World, whom I commit unto you to instruct and inform in all good Ways and virtuous Learning, so that by your Skill and Wisdom she may attain to all good things appertaining to so great and noble Parentage, &c.

The first Mistress, named *Halicuja* said, Great La-

dy, commit the Education of your Daughter to me, and I shall teach her as much Wisdom Ecclesiastical and Civil in Seven Years, as I and all my Fellows can all Days of our Lives.

Then stood up the Second Mistress, named *Mardula*, and said, Great Lady, I have Tutored Emperors Daughters, and instructed Queens, both at home and abroad, in all Arts and Sciences; therefore if you please to deliver your Daughter to me, I shall learn her as much Natural Philosophy in six Years, as I and all my Fellows have.

The third then Addressed herself, named *Cicre*, and said, Gracious Lady, I have been with you in strange Countries, and shewed you by my Art and Skill, in the Planets what noble Prince should wed ye, and never asked any Reward, only this, if I may obtain the Favour of ye, as to vouchsafe me the Tuition and Instruction of your Daughter, I will inform her as much in five Years as all the Mistresses in *Rome* can.

The fourth Mistress drew near the Empress, who was called *Penthisilia*, and said, Great Lady, I have been Governess to many Ladies, and have served you in your Infancy; therefore if you will deliver your Daughter to me, I will train her up in Virtue, and make her as perfect in all Arts and Sciences in four Years as I and all my Fellows be.

The fifth Mistress, named *Debora*, then addressed her self, and said, O honoured Lady, I have by my Skill and Wisdom defended the City of *Rome* from dangerous and great Invasions, and many times called to the Senate-house, where they have profited much by my Counsel: Yet the greatest thing I desire in the World, is to have your Daughter to instruct, and I will learn her to do as Marvelous things in three Years as I and all my Fellow-students.

Then addressed the sixth, named *Dejanara*, and said,

Dread

Dread Lady, If you commit the Tuition of your Daughter to me, I will teach her as much as all can do in two Years.

And likewise the Seventh Mistress said, Glorious Empress, Vouchsafe your Daughter to me, and I will learn her as much Art and Science in one Year as is in all the World.

Then stood up the Empress, and spake before them all, I render unto you many Thanks; for as much as I am obliged unto you all; but if I should commit the Charge of my only Daughter to one, and not to another, for her Education, it may Create great Discord amongst you; therefore do I commit her to the Charge of you All joyntly together, to teach and tutor in all Learning, Vertue and Wisdom, as best fits a Princess in such Royal Dignity.

The wise and learned Mistresses hearing the noble and generous Expression of the Empress, knowing it to be but Justice, with a full and generous Accord, they agreed together, and with great Joy returned Thanks to the Empress; so received her Daughter, and led her away towards a sumptuous Palace some four Miles out of *Rome*; and going on their way, *Boadicia* said to her Fellows, if we now should instruct and teach this Child publickly, and grant her recourse to the pleasant Gardens, it would prove a Hindrance to her Princely Study: Moreover, the Egyptian Knights hearing of so great a Beauty, might by chance, when we little think of it, steal her away by force. Then answered *Mardula*, let us put her in the *Brazen-Tower*, on which are seven Locks, and let every one of us keep a Key, and we will paint upon all Instruments of Musick, *The seven liberal Sciences*, that when ever she delights to play upon the Musick, she might there behold her Doctrine thereon, so that it may never be out of memory.

This Saying pleased all well, and being done accordingly

ingly, the Mistresses used their best Skill and Diligence in attending the young Lady, for the space of seven Years; which being expired, they appointed a Day for to prove her Experience in what she had learnt; thereupon they all consented, and for the Trial thereof proposed three Questions to her.

First, What number of Stars were fixed in the Firmament?

She answered, That number first created,

Secondly, When do the Planets begin to rise?

She answered, After they go down.

Thirdly, What Knowledge made Woman wisest?

She answered, The Knowledge of Good and Evil.

The wise Mistresses hearing these wise and accute Answers, said among themselves, Doubtless this Lady will be a famous Woman, and also will excel all her Progenitors.

CHAP. II.

How the Empress by the Advice of her Lords, chose Radamentus *her Assistant in the Government of the Empire, and also Guardian to her Daughter* Sabrina.

NOw about this time the Princes of the Land, with all the Barons, assembled themselves together before the Empress in full Council, for the Election of a Grand Consul, expert in the Laws and Customs of the Empire, for to assist the Empress in all Temporal Affairs, according to the Will of her late Husband the King; and they chose one *Radamentus*, who was Uncle to the late King, a wise and cunning Politician, and one whom the Empress reposed great Confidence in; that whatsoever he did enact or contrive, she was ready to sign: To which the Nobles of the Land gave their general Consent, for the better Ease of the Queen, and to prevent their own future Trouble. This *Radamentus*

hold-

holding the Helm of the Empire in great sway he grew haughty and ambitious of more Honour, and thinking to himself, that the Empress was weak and sickly, and if she did die, 'twas probable he may take the sole Government to himself, and rule as Lord and Emperor.

But understanding the Empress had a young Daughter, brought up in the School of the seven Wise Mistresses, and right Heir to the Crown, he thought when she came to Maturity she would out-wit him, and prove craftier than himself: Therefore from that time he daily sought her Destruction. Now there was a Law at that time, that whosoever was found in Fornication or Adultery were to die by that Law without Mercy; so upon a Day, as the Empress and *Radementus* were both walking in the Garden, *Radamentus* seemed to be very Melancholly, and would not speak: The Empress seeing him so heavy, marvelled greatly, and asked him the cause of his Sadness: Who answered, Now the Realm is in full Peace and Quietness, there is but one thing I requeſt of you.

The Empress said, Ask what you will, it shall be granted to the one half of my Kingdom.

Then said the Consul, You have but one only Daughter in the World, and Heiress to the Empire, and she you cause to be detained between Stone-walls, wherein she spends the Flower of her Years only in Thoughts and Comtemplations, that what she (as a Princess) doth there imagine within, the veriest Wretch in the World doth see it actually abroad; therefore send for her to Court, that you may have comfort of her, and she may see the Practice thereof, and have recourse to Council.

Then answered the Empress, I like your Saying, for it is seven Years since I have seen her; thereupon she wrote Letters signed with her Privy-signet, and Messengers to the seven Wise Mistresses, for to hasten away to the Court of *Rome* against such a Day, and bring *Sabrina* the young Princess with them.

CHAP.

CHAP. III.

How the Seven Wise Mistresses, after sight of the Empress's Letters, by their powerful Skill went to search the Planets; by which they understood the Design of Radamentus.

WHen the Mistresses had received the Empress's Letter, and understood the Contents thereof, they fell to their Books, and fathomed their Skill, directing their Figures, and marking the Planets, if the Cause of her going might be Fortunate or no. And they found a great Contagion among the Signs, from whence they did predict, that when they presented the young Lady, if she should answer any more Words than one, her Enemies would have Power over her to betray her to the shamefullest Death that may be; so they were very heavy, and mourned all the Day long; about the Evening-tide came down the young Lady *Sabrina*, to delight herself upon the Musick, and seeing all the Seven Mistresses very sad, she demanded the Cause of their

Grief; who answered, O Lady, this Morning we have received Letters from the Empress, that we forthwith do haste to Court, and bring you along with us; and we have seen a Star that your Journey will prove fatal if you speak any more Words than one, which is, *Justice*; that you shall say, and no more for the space of seven Days; and this is the thing which grieves us, that since we have nourished you for so many Years, we should now at last be reduced to such a Hazard.

Then said the young Lady, being full of vertuous Learning, I have viewed the Firmament myself, and marked the Motions of the lesser Stars, and found your Saying true; but if you will hear my Counsel, and receive my Advice, without doubt my Vertue shall over-top their Vice, and my cunning Wisdom shall exceed their crafty Treachery.

Then said the Mistresses, speak on, we will hearken to it.

And she said, I shall be accus'd of an evil Person, and be unjustly condemned; but if every of you seven can speak to my Mother the Empress, each one her Day for seven Days together in my behalf, I shall save my Life.

The Mistresses hearing this, accorded in a joyful Harmony, and said among themselves, What Joy is come to us, surely she will be an Empress of great Fame and Wisdom: so they cloathed her in Cloath of Gold and rich Ornaments, and provided a Chariot Azure Colour, drawn by four white Steeds, who gently paced the Ground like as they trod by some directed steps in the Air: so with a Train of pure Virgins, she was accompained to the Empress.

CHAP.

CHAP. IV.

How the Empress hearing her Daughter was coming on the Way, rid in great Triumph with all her Princes and Barrons to meet her.

WHen the Empress heard that the seven Wise Mistresses of *Rome* were coming with her young Daughter *Sabrina*, she caused all her Chariots to be made ready, and with her Heraulds, Trophies, and Banners, accompanied with all her Nobles, rid on the way to meet them.

But said the Mistresses to *Sabrina*, it were good for us to depart and go into the City some other way, and diligently watch the Planets in their several Motions, for the Safeguard of your Life, and the Preservation of us; to this the young Lady willingly condescended, But remember me in my Necessity, she said; So they departed, and the young Lady rid on her way: But when the Empress saw her, she took her in her Arms

and kissed her, saying, O my dear Daughter, the only Delight I have in the World, whom God doth preserve for future Blessings, how is it with you? Now I hope you will be to me the Flower of my external Happiness, being conformed in all vertuous Learning, the fitter to sit upon my Judgment-seat after me: The young Lady bowed and did Reverence unto the Empress, but spake not a Word. When the Empress saw this, she blushed with very fear some Evil had befallen her, that she spake not; and yet she thought in herself, that being out of the Country so many Years, learning strange Arts, she might forget her natural Language, and a thousand other things came in her mind: And anon she asked her again, what she had learnt so many Years with the Wise Mistresses of *Rome*, she answered, *Justice*; so bowed herself, and spake not one word more. Then the Empress acquainted her Lords, how and in what Condition her Daughter was in, and said, for the Evil the Mistresses had done her, they should die the most shameful Death that could be thought of; and when she came to the Palace, she took her by the hand and led her into the great Hall, out of thence into the Garden, and plac'd her by her in the Arbour upon her own Seat, and said, My good Daughter, declare unto me the Reason by some certain Sign why you will not speak, or else here is a Pen and Paper, write to me your Mind; she took the Pen in her Hand and wrote these Lines.

Through Learning which doth me adorn,
I very plainly see,
The Star where under I was born
proves fatal now to me:
And I in Bed have lately dream'd,
what after will ensue;
That I three times shall be condemn'd,
in Judgment-seat by you.

When

When the Empress saw these Lines, she was astonish'd, and wondered greatly, for she knew not the Meaning thereof, how that she should give Judgment three times on her own Daughter; she wrung her hands, and mourned greatly.

Then came *Radamentus* the great Consul, and said unto the Empress, Is this your Daughter which hath been brought up with the seven Wise Mistresses of *Rome*? The Empress answered, This is my Daughter and only Heir to the Empire, but she now hath no Expression with her Tongue. *Radamentus* stood still and beheld her, and saw her Countenance so pleasant, and of such incomparable Beauty, that the like was not in all the World, he burned inwardly with Lust, and deceitfully said to the Empress, Deliver her to me, and by often persuasion, without doubt, I'll make her declare to me her whole Studience; this did he not for any Love and Honour he bore to her, but rather to satisfie his insatiate lustful Appetite, and after conspire her Destruction, which was the main thing he aimed at; but God infused in the Heart of the Princess not to go with him.

CHAP. V.

How Radamentus *watched his Opportunity how he might surprize the Princess in the Garden, and how he conspired to take away her Life.*

Radamentus after this, being in his Chamberwindow, espied the Princess going into the Garden to walk neer the Sickamore trees, without any body with her and it happened that she left the Key in the Door on the inside, and forgot to shut it. The old Consul came down and entered the Garden, locking the Door and taking the Key out, he came to the Lady upon a sudden as she was contemplating under the Trees; who at

the presence of *Radamentus* began to blush, that there appeared in her Face such a Crimson Dye, that the Malice of *Radamentus* was reduced into a Venial Love, and thus he began to court her:

Gentle Lady, Give me leave to tell ye, that the first time I saw ye, there was a Fire kindled within my Heart, and now your Beauty begets another, which nothing can allay, except you vouchsafe me the Favour to let me sleep with you upon this Bed of Roses, and repose our selves in the Bosom of Love.

The Royal Princess turned about, and with a scornful Gesture gave a Repulse to his lascivious Demand; which caused his Countenance to fall, and his fancy turned to Fury; therefore he ranouts of the Garden, and lock'd the Door and threw the Key in again, and cryed out that he saw the Princess with a Man under a Fig-tree, committing the foul Sin of Fornication, as a Breach of the Law, the Shame of her Parents, and the Destruction of her own Soul. The Empress hearing this, was struck with Horrour and Amazement, to think that her only Daughter and Heir to the Empire should prove so Unfortunate: First, instead of Arts and Sciences, she should have been perfected with, she was delivered unto me speechless; where I thought she was adorned with Virtues, she is besotted with Vice: I would the Day of her Birth had been the Day of her Burial: So the Empress believed all that the wicked Consul had reported; and the Nobles that were present asked were he saw her; and he said, Under a Sicke-amore-tree; but said, The Man, when he perceived me, ran away. Then the Nobles hasted into the Garden, and found the Princess walking by herself; they asked her what Man had been with her there: She answered nothing. Then the Empress seeing it apparent that she was in the Garden as *Radamentus* reported, believed all as was said; therefore in Rage and Choler she commanded

manded her to be led away and burnt at a Stake. But the Ladies, which came with the Princess and other of the Nobility, addressed themselves to the Empress, and said,

Gracious Lady, She is your only Daughter, and all you have in the World; it is good that she have a little Respite, and you better consider of the Matter; it may chance to prove but a Mistake of the Consul; for if you hastily thus put her to Death, it will accrew to your Dishonour, and we shall gain Reproach of all Nations; therefore let a Day be appointed, and she appear in Judgment, if she deserve Death to be found by twelve Men, and fairly condemned by the Law. At this the Empress bethought herself, being something reconciled of her Rashness, and comitted her to safe Prison.

CHAP. VI.

How Radamentus *complained against the young Princess, and he accused her of Fornication, being Death by the Law.*

Radamentus finding his Accusation took Effect, no time was omitted for the prosecution thereof, for his insatiable Spirit would not be satisfied till Life and all was gone; therefore he came again to the Empress, as a Man in great Sorrow and Pain: And the Empress said, My grave Lord and Counsellour, What maketh you so heavy? O Lady, said *Radamentus*, how should I otherwise choose, thinking what Stain and Defamation will rely upon this our Empire, because of your graceless Daughter, through her lascivious Actions within your Court, as a Common Whore; and if you let her live any longer in this foul Sin, you will be counted no less your self, and rendered odious over all the World; for the Rumour of People will be upon you, saying, What

need we fear to break the Law, since the Law-makers do violate it? The Daughter of the Empress is both a Whore and a Strumpet: and thus, through her means we shall have Vice supported, and Vertue oppressed: for what need they care, since they have such evil Precedents.

Then said the Empress, To prevent all these Evils, to Morrow I shall sit in Judgment, and she shall die by the Law.

Then, said *Radamentus*, see it be so done, lest it happen to you as it did to a Lady in *Capadocia*, of whom an Example is mentioned. Relate the Example, said the Empress. I shall, said *Radamentus*.

The First Example of Radamentus.

IN *Capadocia* was a Lady who kept a sumptuous Garden, in which was the most vertuous Well in the World, that whosoever should be bit with any venemous Beast, wash but in that Water, they were immediately cured. It happened on a Day, as the Lady was walking in her Garden a gathering of Flowers, she espies in the corner of the Garden, in the side of a little Rock, a small prill of Water running fair and christal, abundant more clear than the vertuous Well was, which caused her to imagin, that if the Rock were carved, there would issue a Water more excellent than the Well-water, and said unto the Gardiner, Get me a Workman that he may hew this Rock, whereby I may have a precious Fountain here; and I give you charge over it, to see it done. The Gardiner answered, Your Will shall be fulfilled. But another time the Lady came into the Garden, and viewed the little Spring; but it appeared not so strong in running as she thought it would: And she said, Wherefore runs it no better? Her Man said, The Original Spring

was

was deep in the Earth, and had two Ways, the one to the Well, and the other to the Rock; but that to the Well is greater, and by its ſtrength draws more Water to the Well; and therefore its Stream is ſo little. Then ſaid the Lady, Deſtroy the Well then, for queſtionleſs this Spring will prove the better Water. So the Gardiner damn'd up the vertuous Water, that there was no more ſeen. And another Day the Lady came again into the Garden to ſee the young Spring, and taſte the Water, and it proved very ſad and bitter; and having its Courſe through a Tin-mine, whatſoever ſick Perſon did bathe in it, it would putrifie their Sore, and augment their Pain; ſo that all People did curſe the Councellors that did adviſe the Lady to deſtroy the vertuous Well. Then ſaid *Radamentus*, Underſtand you, great Lady, what I have ſaid? Yes, right well, ſaid the Empreſs. Then ſaid he, I will ſhew you the meaning thereof.

The Declaration of the Example.

THE vertuous Well, great Lady, betokeneth your ſelf, and how that with your vertuous and wiſe Judgments, you govern the People with Equity, that whoſoever complaineth to you ſhould have Juſtice, and their ſick Caſes mitigated; and the young Spring, ſo fair and chriſtal, is your graceleſs luxurious Daughter, who will cauſe your Royal Name to be blaſted, and your vertuous Government deſpiſed, whoſe Actions are bitter, running through a Tin mine; that is, baſe and inferiour Carriages, not in Royalty of a Princely Parentage; ſo that quickly ſhe will break your Heart, and reign after you: then all People will curſe the Counſellors that adviſed you to let her live: Therefore, great Lady, I counſel you, while it is time, to cut her off and deſtroy her, leſt the Curſe of the Em-

pire

pire follow you. Then said the Empress, All that shall not happen, for to Morrow I shall sit in Judgment, and she shall die without fail. When the Day was come, the Empress sat in Judgment, and commanded her Officers to lead her away to be burnt at a Stake; and as she was led thro' the City, in a long Smock of Lawn, and a Branch of Rosemary in her Hand, and the Trumpets sounding her doleful Funeral, all the People ran out and wept, crying, Alas, alas, the only Daughter of the Empress is leading to Death. Then came *Halicuja* the first Mistress passing by, as the young Lady saw her, she bowed her Head, as if she said, Remember me when you come before my Mother; and when she came to the Empress, and did Reverence, the Empress said unto her with a stern Countenance, Thou ungrateful and vile Woman, how hast thou tutored my Child? I delivered her to thee well and hopeful, and now she is become the viciousest Creature that ever a Woman bare, surely thou shalt die as strange a Death as may be thought on. Then said the Mistress, Gracious Lady, the Cause why she speaketh not, the Divine Powers know, and without Cause it is not; and as for the Sin of Fornication, we all can testifie, that for the space of seven Years, we never saw the least Motion, neither in Thought, Word nor Deed; therefore gracious Lady, if you do put her to Death, only for the Accusation of *Radarenetus*, it will happen to you as it did unto the Queen of *Syra*, who poysoned her Husband thro' the Perswasion of one wicked Person. Then said the Empress, Shew me that Example? Nay, said the Mistress, except you send for your Daughter back, otherwise she may be dead before I make an end, then will it be in vain: upon which words, the Empress sent for her Daughter again, and committed her to Prison; then the Mistress began as followeth:

The

The Example of the first Mistress.

IN *Syra* lived a Queen of great Renown, and of such excellent Beauty, that a fairer Woman was not in all the World, for which many Kings and Princes of Noble Blood came a suiting to her, each Man confident she should be his: This Queen delighted much in seeing Justs and Turneys; therefore was a Day appointed, and they all assembled together to shew their Valour before the Queen; amongst whom was *Crassus* a most valiant Prince, and of such incomparable Features and Beauty, that his Like was not among Men. On this Prince, the Queen fixed her Eye all that part of the Day; in whose sight he did such worthy Acts, that deserved perpetual Memory: And to be brief, he had the Day of all the Kings, Princes, and Barons that were there, whereby he came off the Field with Trumpets sounding, and victorious Trophies bore before him. On the Morrow after, the Queen sent for him, and when he came he kneeled before her to have kist her Hand, but she refused, and in a comely Deportment tendered her Lips: The Prince being somewhat bashful, the Queen gave him farther incouragement, so that by little and little they grew into a wonderful Familiarity; and soon after the Queen took him for her Husband, and made him joynt King of *Syra* with her. He was a wise and gracious Prince, and beloved of all his Subjects, all People joyed at his Presence, the whole Land sorrowed in his Absence; never no Queen loved King better, nor never was Queen more beloved of a King: and it came to pass afterwards, that the King of the Parthians lay very sick, whose Son this King was, and he received a Letter from his Father to make haste unto him, that after his Death he should take possession of the Realm;

and

and after a while he was gone, an evil Councellor in his Court being in love with the Queen, intercepted all the King's Letters that passed between him and his Queen, and informed the Queen he had married another Lady in his own Country; which raised such Jealousie in the Queen, that she tore the Ornaments off her Head, wringing her Hands, saying, O! my dear Lord, what Evil have I done? what word have I misplac'd? wherein have I offended you, that another should reap the Consolation of your Love? The King in the mean time wondring he could never receive any Letter from the Queen, lamented, saying; O! my Dear, wherein have I offended? I can never hear how you do, nor how the Affairs of your Kingdom stand. All this waile the wicked Connsellor intercepted their Letters on both sides, to work the Destruction of the King; and at last he invented a strong Poyson, and carried the same to the Queen, and told her it was of such a Vertue, that if she would cause a Ring to be made hollow, and put a little of this Vertue in it, and send it to the King as a Token, and as oft as ever the King did look upon it, 'twould cause him to forsake all other Women and haste home unto her. So the Queen believed his wicked Counsel, and was very glad, and without the Advice of any other, she caused a Ring to be made as he had said, and put therein this Poyson, and sent it away to her Husband: when the Messenger came before him, he did him Reverence, and presented the Ring to him; the harmless King joyfully put it on, saying, 'Twas the sweetest Present he ever received: soon after his Finger began to swell, and he sent for his Physicians, who said his Finger was venomed with the strongest Poyson in the World, and said he must cut it off, else 'twould venom his whole Body: Then said the King, Cut it off; which accordingly was done: then his Arm began to swell, and in

like

like manner that was cut off to preserve his Life. Then the good King groaned out this Complaint, O thou vile Woman, why hast thou done this to him whom thou wert as dear to as his own Soul? thou hast attempted that by Poyson, which the stoutest Champion durst not do by Arms; I that have won the greatest Glory that ever came to *Syria*, hast thou now destroyed with Poison, for which thou wilt gain Reproach of all Nations, and be reviled of all Women, for returning me malicious Poyson for pure inflamed Love; but all I can say is, Ingratitude is the grandest Sin in the World; O Woman, why hast thou done this? Thereupon he sunk down in his Chair and died. Then the Messenger hasted home, and told the Queen what had happened by the King, and that all the Councellor had told her of the King was false: then the Queen fell a weeping and wringing her Hands, saying, O what have I done; what have I done? I have by the Advice of an evil Counsellor slain my dear Husband the King! O cursed Traytor, would God I had ne'er receiv'd thy wicked Counsel; but since I embraced thy hellish Advice, with this Hand that first handled the cursed Ring, I will be revenged on my self, and so took a Knife and thrust it into her Breast, and so ended her Life. Then said the Mistress to the Empress, Understand you what I have said? Yes, right well, said the Empress, you have shewed me a good Example; without doubt this Day my Daughter shall not die? Then said the Mistress, If you do so, you will do wisely, and I thank you, for sparing your Daughter's Life this Day for my sake.

The second Complaint of Radamentus.

WHen *Radamentus* understood the Princess had obtained Pardon through the means of *Helicuja* the wise Mistress, he retired to his Chamber, and seemed to grieve and lament extraordinary; but, alas, it was nothing but Falshood and Deceit: so that he refused to come to Council: whereat the Empress was much troubled, and thereupon sent for him and demanded the Cause of his Grief, and the Reason wherefore he did not attend to Council? who answered,

Great Lady, What greater Pain can there be to a Man, than when he is reviled of every vulgar Tongue undeservedly; for all People know I am your Assistance in the Empire, and think I am at the Helm of Justice, where I do rather more support Wickedness than Equity, and maintain Vice where I should Vertue; since of late there hath been Whoredom and Debauchery committed in the very Court, and the Empress's own Daughter did it: What Scandal is this that I shall lie under? Beside, your Royal Person will be defamed, and the Honour of your Kingdom the Object of the World; for you hinder Justice from being executed upon that vile Wretch your cursed Daughter, so that she liveth to the Ruine of the Empire; Therefore it shall happen to you as it did to the Queen of *Pirus* and her Daughter.

The Empress said, I pray you shew me that Example?

Why said *Radamentus*, let me shew you never so many, it availeth not; nevertheless I will shew you this, which is as followeth:

The second Example of Radamentus.

IN *Pirus* reigned a vertuous Queen, her Husband being dead, she had one only Daughter, whom she tender'd above her life; this Daughter grew very crafty and cunning, and often convers'd with Sorcerers, to whom she complain'd there was but one Nobleman which hindered her from having her Will and Liberty.

Said the Sorcerer, I'll teach you away to betray his Life, and then you may do well enough with your Mother. Pray shew me that way, said she. That I will, said the Sorcerer, that is this,

When he is walking in the Garden, go you to him, and if he sit down, sit you by him, 'twill be a Povocation to move his Spirit, and as he doth proceed then give him Incouragement; if he refuse you, cry out he has ravisht you. So this impudent Wretch sat by this Nobleman, and smiled upon him, and smote him with the Palm of her hand upon the Cheek and said; Come let us solace ourselves in the Bosom of Love until the dark Evening.

Then said the Lord, Great Lady, Excuse me for I am not furnisht with so much Confidence as to deflower the Pearl of our land.

At which Words this Lady tore her Locks down about her Sholders, and cryed out, Alas, alas, what shall I do! The Queen her Mother being in the Window heard the Cry and looking out espied her Daughter in the Garden crying and wringing her Hands; she sent down her Lords to know the matter; and she said, this Man, meaning the harmless Lord, hath constrained me by force under yonder Tree, and he hath deflowred me of my Virginity. The Queen hearing this, said, Surely he shall die. Then said the Lords, It is good that you hear him before you put him to Death. Nay,

said

said the Queen, I have heard my Daughter, what need we any further Witness; I will believe her Testimony above the World's; and thereupon commanded the Lord to be led away and put to Death, which accordingly was done. This Lord was the uprightest Man and greatest Counsellor the Queen had; from this time forth she always sought the Destruction of her Mother; and thus she began:

Great Princess, and Mother, through my Obedience and diligent Care, I bear to you, I would wish you not to speak to every mean Subject when they come to to have Justice, but that I, between you and 'em, may deliver their Message, for too much Familiarity will breed Contempt; therefore the Queen reposing so much Confidence in her Daughter, thought all for good whatsoever she did do; and thereupon set forth a Proclamation, That all Persons whatsoever having Business at the Court, should address themselves to her Daughter; who, always sitting in an outward Chamber, as People came to her, she seemed very mild, amiable, and courteous, so thro' her Cunning and Dissimulation all People took Affections to her, and she would say to them, My Mother is very rash being ancient; but if you will take me for your Sovereign, I'll do you Justice according to the due Administration of the Law: At which words they were all very joyful, and promised faithfully to perform it: But, said she, raise your Army, stand in your own Defence, and plead your Subsidies and the heavy Burdens are too weighty for you to bear. This do till you hear from me. So the rude Multidue did as this Imp had advis'd them. Then away she went to her Mother, and acquainted her there was a factious People had rebell'd, and it were good to prevent them in time, lest they should grow too populous; so the Queen gave her the Supream Authority, in granting Commissions to raise an Army; so when she had got

the

the Seal, she told her Mother she must have a great quantity of Gold to pay them: Then the Queen delivered two hundred thousand Marks of Gold; and having got this Money, she hasted with it all away to her factious Crew; and there paid them all with her Mother's own Treasure, and gave them Commissions under her own Seal, that all the rest of the Subjects were in a Maze; for seeing their Commissions under the Queen's Seal, all lay still, not one moved for the Queen, thinking it had been no Rebellion: At last this new Army advanced towards the Court, and being come, this wicked Wretch, the Queen's Daughter, hasted to her Mother, and told her, that she, by her fair Speeches, had asswaged the Fury of the People, and brought them there to beg their Pardon, which she desired the Queen to grant them; she being always betrayed through her subtle Words, condescended; and as she was going out to sign their Pardons, and conducted by her Daughter, she passed over a boarded Ally, where underneath was a Room and Cauldron of boyling Oyl, that this wicked Daughter had provided, with a Board whereon her Mother was to tread, which tilting up, the Queen fell in, and thereby was destroy'd: And after was this wicked Wretch proclaimed Queen, that through lascivious Living and cruel Tyranny all Nations spighted her, and her own Subjects hated her, that as she was coming through the City of *Combro*, a Butcher's Man dash'd out her Brains with his Cleaver; The end of a Tyrant. And *Radamentus* said to the Empress, Understand ye what I have said?

And the Empress said, Right well, you have shew'd me a good Example; therefore to prevent these Evils that they shall not happen to me, this Day my Daughter shall die: And the second time she sat in Judgment, and commanded her Daughter to be led away to the place of Execution; and as she was going, the second

Mistress addressed herself to the Empress, doing her Reverence, and said,

O great Lady, if you will thus slay your Daughter for the Words of *Rhamentus*, it shall happen worse to you than it did to the Lady of *Barbaro* and her Lyon.

The Empress said, Good Mistress, shew me that Example.

O great Lady, I shall not do it, except you call your Daughter back again until it be told, and if it does not turn your Mind, your Will be fulfilled afterwards.

The Example of the Second Mistress.

UPon a time there was a Lady and her Husband which designed a long Voyage by Sea, but the Wind and the Weather proving contrary, they were driven to great Distress, and constrained to lie a tedious while at Sea, insomuch that all their Provision was spent; then they continued a whole Fortnight without any kind of Food, and when Nature could subsist no longer, they threw Dice for their Lives who should be kill'd first, to make Meat for his Fellows; so they eat one another in order as they began, until all were eat; but this poor Lady and her Husband which force of Nature and pure Love hindred from killing each other: Then they resolved to die together, and so sowed themselves in one Carpet, and laid them down upon the Deck, saying, The great God of Heaven and Earth help them; and by that time they were lull'd asleep by the rocking of the Waves, there chanced to come upon the Deck a great Griffin, that's half an Eagle, and half a Lyon, so that it is neither Bird nor Beast, but a Creature as strong as a Horse, and took up the Carpet in her Claws with the Lady and her Hus-

Husband, as a Prey for her young Ones, and carried them into a ſtrange Iſland, inhabited with Lyons, Bears, Wolves, and ſuch like Beaſts: When the Griffin had brought them into his Neſt, he and his young began to peck at the Carpet, with which they awaked the Lady and her Husband, who being a ſtout Heroe, open'd the Carpet and eſpyed Land; and having his Sword with him, came out and fought a deſperate Fight with the Griffin, and ſlew him and all his Young. How to get off this Iſland they did not know, but in wandering up and down the Man died, and then the poor Lady was alone, and comforted by none but God above; ſo wandering about the Wilderneſs ſhe chanced to meet a mighty He-Lyon, whoſe Roaring ſeemed to her like Claps of Thunder, then when ſhe ſaw him ſhe fell to the Ground, ſaying, O great *Jehovah*, who holdeth the Power of all Creatures in thy Hands, have Mercy upon me. So ſhe drew near unto him, and diſcovered that he halted, and the Lyon groaned towards her, as though he wanted help; ſo ſhe ventured to him, and took up his Foot, and therein was a great Thorn, and the Lyon patiently holding up his Foot, ſhe drew it out; which having done the Lyon fawned upon her, and licked her, and ſhewed as great Love and Kindneſs to her as ever Human Nature could: inſomuch that he led her to his Den, where ſhe continued for a long ſeaſon, feeding upon nothing but what Preys the Lyon had brought her, and which way ſoever ſhe walked, the Lyon would attend upon her, and preſerve her from all other ſavage Beaſts. At laſt as ſhe was mourning to herſelf, deploring her Condition in living in ſuch Obſcurity in a foreign Country, whoſe daily Companion was but a ſavage Beaſt, her Mind yearning after her own Habitation, ſhe thus complained: O how hath Fortune frowned on me, that I am driven out from among all Humane

mane Knowledge, and am glad to take my living with the Beast of the Field. As she thus complained to herself, the Devil chanced to appear unto her, and demanded the cause of her Complaint, who told him all as you have heard.

Then said he to her, What wilt thou give and I'll provide a Ship shall carry thee home to thy own Country? She answered, Half her Estate. Nay, said the Devil, if thou wilt give me thy Soul at the Term of twelve Years, I'll set thee in thy own Country, and thou shalt live and flourish so long? God forbid, said the Lady, I'll first end my wretched Life in this solitary Island.

Why then, said the Devil, I'll make this Bargain with ye, That if you can abstain from sleeping all the time of our Voyage, which shall be but three Days, I'll have nothing to do with your Soul; but if you sleep, I'll have it, as I have said: And upon this Bargain the Lady ventured, provided she might have her Lyon with her; so 'twas concluded, and a brave Ship came and took in the Lady and her Lyon: When she lay down the Lyon lay by her, and if she slumbered, the Lyon would touch her with his Paw; by which means he kept her awake all the Voyage until she landed in her own Country; and being come to her Father's House, she knocked at the Gate; then the Porter coming with all speed, opened the Gate, and saw it was a Beggar, frowningly he shut it again, saying, Here's nothing for you: Then she bounced at the Gate again, and asked the Porter if such a Knight lived there, meaning her Father, and he said, Yes; then said she, Pray deliver this piece of a Ring unto him. Now this Ring was it she brake betwixt her Father and she, at her departure out of the Land; then the Porter delivered the Ring to his Master, saying, The Beggar-Woman at the Gate willed me to deliver this

this piece of a Ring unto you. When the Knight ſaw the Ring he fell down in a ſwound, but when he was revived, he ſaid, Call her in, for ſhe is my only Daughter, whom I thought was Dead. Then ſaid the Porter, I dare not call her in, for there is a mighty He-Lyon with her. Though it be, ſaid the Knight, call her in: then ſaid the Porter You are to come in; but leave your Lyon out. No, ſaid the Lady, my Lion walketh where I go, and where he is not, there will I not be; and when ſhe came to her Father, ſhe fell down on her Knees and wept: her Father took her up in his Arms and kiſt her, weeping as faſt, and after he clothed her in Purple, and placed her by him in a Chair, and demanded the Relations of her Travels, who declared unto him all that happened, and how the Lyon had ſaved her Life, and was the greateſt Comfort ſhe had in the Wilderneſs. It chanced afterwards that as the Knight was going into his Wood to view his young Horſes, he met with a wild Boar, with whom he fell in combat. The Lyon loved the old Knight, and by accident walking under the Paleſide he ſcented the Boar, and as the Lyon ran towards the Place where the Boar was, the Steward eſpied him, and he ran into the Palace, and cryed out, The Lyon is running after my Maſter to deſtroy him. Then the Lady ſent after him ten of her Servants, who met the Lyon with his Mouth all bloody, and they ran back and told the Lady the Lyon had deſtroyed her Father. Then ſaid the Lady, O Woe is me that ever I was born, that have brought a Lyon from far to deſtroy my own Father, therefore ſhe commanded her Servants to ſlay the Lyon; which no ſooner was done, but her Father came in, and ſaid, O I have met with a wild Boar, with whom I fought, and there came in the Lyon to my Aid, and ſlew the Boar, ſo ſaved my Life, elſe I had died by the Boar. When the Lady

heard this, O how she wept and wrung her Hands, saying, For the Words of a wicked Steward, I have slain my Lyon, who hath saved both my Life and my Father's, cursed be the time I was advised by him. Then said the Mistress, Understand you what I have said?

Yes, right well, said the Empress, you have shewed me a good Example of a bad Advice, which caused the Lady to slay so good a Lyon; surely I'll beware such bad Advice, my Daughter shall not die this Day. The Mistress said, If you do so, you will do well; therefore I commit you to God, and stand obliged to your Grace for saving your Daughter this Day for my sake.

The third Complaint of Radamentus.

WHen *Radamentus* perceived the young Princess was not dead, he kept his Chamber, and tore his Hair, grieving very much, and saying, The State of the Empire lies groaning under the Scandal of all Nations, and reputed as the very Froth and Scum of Baseness; and as he was thus complaining, some of his Attendants over hearing him, went and imparted it to the Empress, and she went to him, and asked the Cause of his Lamentation; who answered, O, great Lady, how can I otherwise chuse, knowing so great a Crime that lies upon the Empire, through deboist and lascivious Actions of your graceless Daughter, and yet cannot have Justice executed upon her, whereby we may wash away the stain that rests upon your Honour and my Reputation, the World knowing I am your Assistant in your Government; and seeing there is no more respect and observing of the Laws than there is, I have just Cause to leave your Realm, and suffer you to plunge yourself into this Deluge of Ignorance; but that the Love I bear to you, and your Subjects, doth prohibit me from it:

And

And you know, great Lady, if I should depart and leave you to yourself, through your Weakness in believing old fabulous Stories, it would tend to your utter Ruine and Destruction.

Then said the Empress, Most grave Lord and Counsellor, pass by your Sorrow and Lamentation at this this time, and I shall never fail you of your Request hereafter, but be advised by you.

Then said *Radamentus*, Pray God you may, else I fear it wsll happen to you as it did to the Lady and her Cat, in the Kingdom of *Utergo*, who tendred her Cat as she did her own life, till at last the Cat cut her Lady's Throat. I pray ye, said the Empress, shew me that Example? That I shall gladly do, said *Radamentus*, for the furtherance of your Knowledge; and it is this as followeth:

The third Example of Radamentus.

IN the Kingdom of *Utergo* there lived a Lady who had but one only Daughter, whom she loved above her own Eyes, and hearing there was a very Wise Woman, and one of great Repute and Learned, not far from her own Court, to whom she put her Daughter to be brought up, and instructed in all Arts and Learning; and it proved that this Woman was very Skilful indeed, for she was the greatest Magician in all the Land, though unknown to the Lady, so that instead of teaching the Child Natural Philosophy, she taught her all the whole Art of Necromancy, and at the end of seven Years she learned her how to transform herself into the Likeness of a Cat; and upon a time the Lady sent for this learned Woman to come to her and bring her Daughter with her, for to see how she had improved herself in Learning, and being come, the Lady asked her Daughter three Questions: First, What was most prone to Nature

when it was satisfied? She answered, Ease; for when the Belly is full, the Bones desire Rest. Secondly, How far is it to the Bottom of the Sea? She answered, A Stone's throw. Thirdly, She asked her how long Sun and Moon were going round the World? She answered, Four and twenty Hours. Then said the Lady, You have answered me well, doubtless thou wilt prove a cunning Woman: Then she walked in her Parlour, and shewed the Mistress what a delicate and fine Cat she had; and the Mistress said, Of a truth it is a brave Cat; but after I return home I'll present you with the finest Cat that ever was seen, for she will wait at the Table, and can interpret Riddles, resolving Answers and Questions, so that there is not the like of her in all the World. Then said the Lady, Pray let me have the Cat? That I shall not do, said she, except you suffer your Daughter to be with me one seven Years more, then shall I present you with the Cat.

The Lady very willingly gave consent thereto, rendring great Thanks: so the learned Woman took leave, and away departed with her young Disciple, and when she came home, she told her, that if she would act her part, she would teach her how she might enjoy all the Pleasure the World did afford; and none was more ready to learn than she was. Then said the Magician, You must transform yourself to the Likeness of a Cat, and I will present you to your Mother: to which they both accorded: Then the Magician took her, and hasted away to the Lady, and presented her the Cat, being of four distinct Colours, Black, Red, Green, and Yellow: Then said the Lady, This is the finest Cat that ever I saw; and took it into her lap, feeding it with white Bread and Milk, and would never sit down to meat but her Cat must be at her Elbow; so the Magician took her leave again, and the Lady gave her great Thanks, so departed: Soon after this, the Cat began to play her Pranks,

Pranks, for there was a Maid living in the House, whose Carriage was civil, and Conversation honest, and a faithful Servant all days of her life: This Cat had power to open any Lock, and shut it again, so she would open the Lady's Cabinet, and take out Money, and lay it in the way where the Maid should find it, sometimes in the Garden, sometimes in the Street, and the Lady still missing her Money, and having no suspicion on the Maid in the least, wondered what should become of it; at last she lost her Bracelet out of her Closet, which the Cat had took and laid a mile from the House, where the Maid should come along; so the Maid when she found it, little thought of her Lady's Bracelet, which oftentimes had been enquired for; she put it up in her Trunk; and after upon a time, as this Maid was taking out Cloaths, her Lady stood by her, and it so chanced that the Bracelet fell besides the Trunk, and the Cat snapt it up in her Paws, and leapt upon the Lady's lap: When the Lady saw it she cryed out, O thou graceless Creature, I bless the Lord I have found thee out; have I kept thee so many Years, and intrusted thee with all I had in the World, and never had the least suspicion of thee? God knows what thou hast robb'd me off in thy time. O thou wicked Wretch! thou shalt die the shamefullest Death as may be thought on. Then said the Maid, What have I done? I never offended you in thought, word nor deed; neither wronged you in all my life hitherto? O Villian, said the Lady, is not this my Bracelet, I have lost for above this half Year, and here I have found it in thy Trunk? God knows what thou hast robb'd me of besides, for I have lost a great deal of Money; then she called more Company in and searched her Trunk further, and found many Pieces of Money, which she knew by the marks; and when they saw that, they apprehended her, and sent her to Prison for all the days of her life. So the Lady continued her

love

love towards the Cat, and would never eat of any Dainties at her Table before she had Cut her Cat the first bit; at last it happened that she sat Dinner, and forgot to carve first for her Cat; whereof she leapt to the Lady's Face and catch't her by the Throat, that had it not been for the help of some at the Table, the Cat had kill'd her: Then said the Lady, I'll keep this Cat no longer, Then it is good, said her Friends, to destroy her. No, said she, for the sake of the learned Mistress which gave her me; then she returned her back from whence she came, and desired to have her Daughter home; when her Daughter came she took her in her Arms and kissed her, and caused her to lie in Bed with her every Night; and in token of a Motherly Love to a Child, she gave her a Ring off her Finger out of love to wear, which Ring she had kept for many Years: And it happened after that this Daughter proceeded in her wicked Art of Witchraft still, and could not break from it: So there was a Mill of the Lady's not far from the the House, and every Night this Daughter when her Mother was asleep, would go with other Rabble, and at the dead of the Night set the Mill a going, rip the Bags, and throw the Corn about the Floor; at which the Miller wondred greatly, and complained on the Morrow to the Lady and others, saying, his Mill was haunted by evil Spirits, doing great Mischief, that he was like to be undone; and they counselled him to watch one Night with a good Sword and a Light to see what it was; and about Midnight there came in at the Window a great Cat to his thinking, by and by another, till there were six, spitting and wawling like Devils, there eyes shining like Coals of Fire: Then the Miller struck at them, and they flew at his Face, and in short time destroy'd him: On the Morrow the Lady sent to the Mill to see how the Miller fared, and they found him dead, with his Face and Throat tore all to pieces.

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The next Night another watcht, and on the Morrow they went to see how he sped, and they found him in the same condition; they all marvelled greatly, so that none would live in that Mill.

At last there came a stour Fellow, and he would undertake to lie in the Mill all Night if the Lady would give him the Mill; she consented, and away goes the Fellow, with a great Sword and Candle, and entered the Mill; so about the old Hour he heard the Mill at work to the purpose; so he took his Sword and Candle in his Hand, and went down out of his Chamber to see what Guests he had got, and when he came into the Mill he saw nothing but the Mill stood still, and as soon as he had entred his Chamber, the Mill was at it again as hard as 'twas before; then he ran back again with his Sword drawn, and there he beheld six great Cats and one little one, with such sparkling Eyes glearing upon him, that he never saw the like before, whereupon he struck at 'em, and they leapt at him on every side, so that he was fain to lay about him lustily to defend himself; at last he wounded two, and they fled through the Window, and the rest fought so furiously, that they put him almost out of Breath, but in the end they all fled thro' the Window, and he following close, smote the last, and cut off her Fore-foot; and so when day came, he went to look for the Foot, and it proved to be a Hand with a fair Ring upon the Finger; when he saw that, then he knew they were Witches, so went home to the Lady, who asked him how it fared with him? He said he was never so hard put to it in his life; How so? said the Lady. Why, said he, there came seven Cats, and set the Mill to work, and if I had not defended my self stoutly, I had been slain by them, but in the end I made them flye; and as the last went through the Window, I cut off her Fore-foot; look here it is. When the Lady saw that, she knew the Hand by the Ring, and she remembred that Night

when she awak'd she felt her Daughter come into the Bed all in a Sweat, and very Cold; with this thought she was stricken with a Fear, that the drops of Sweat trickled down her Face; so she went to the Bed side, and asked her Daughter how she did? Who said I am not well, pray let me alone. Her Mother said, Let me feel your Hand how your Pulse beats; and she gave her the Right-hand, keeping the other Arm in the Bed; and her Mother said, Give me the other Hand, and she would not; then her Mother went to see by force, and there was no Hand; then her Mother knew what Cat she kept before, and said, Thou shalt die by the Law before thou dost any more Mischief. O Graceless Villain, what shame hast thou brought upon me, having such a wicked Child; so she was sentenced to be burnt at a Stake, and as she was led to execution, she confest how she had stole the Money and Bracelet, and laid it where the Maid found it, so to be accus'd of Theft and hang unjustly; but at last she was burnt to Ashes at a Stake, and the innocent Maid redeemed out of Prison.

Now, said *Radamentus*, understand you what I have said? Yes right well, said the Empress. Then said he, I will shew the Declaration thereof:

The Decleration of this Example.

THen *Radamentus* said to the Empress, Great Lady, I fear this will happen to you and your Daughter as it did to this Lady, who for the love of her only Daughter, set her to School to be instructed in vertuous Learning, and she was tutored by a Witch in all the Arts of Necromancy: In the first place she robb'd her Mother, and caus'd an innocent Maid to Father the Theft. Secondly, In her filthy Transformation, had she had not been prevented, she had cut her Mother's Throat. Thirdly, Her horrid Murther in the Mill. Fourthly,

The

The Disgrace and Shame brought upon her Mother and Family. And, fifthly, the utter Ruine and Destruction she brought upon her own Soul, and in the same manner do you labour to preserve your Daughter, and suffer her to reign in all her filthy and detestable Ways, till such time the truth of all things breaks out, then be sure you will receive utter Shame and Disgrace, even to the ruin of yourself and the whole Empire; therefore I advise you to cut her off while she is in the Bud, lest she prove in the end to be a sturdy Oak, and there is no cutting down of her.

The Empress said, You have shewed me a good Example, the Lady giving her Daughter too much liberty, afterwards would have cut her Mother's Throat, and turned both Witch, Thief and Murtherer; without doubt my Daughter shall not serve me so; and on the Morrow she commanded her Officers to lead her away to be burnt, who obeyed her Command in all haste: As she was led thro' the Streets, attired in her Winding-sheet, her Bible under her Arm, and the Trumpets sounding out her doleful Knell, all the People cryed out, Alas, alas, the only Daughter of the Empress is leading to Executon. And as they led her, the third Mistress named *Mardula* came riding by; and as the Priuces saw her, she bowed her Head to her, as much as to say, Remember me; all the People cryed out, saying, O good Mistress, make haste, and by your Famous Wisdom save your Disciple: So away she posted and came before the Empress, doing her Reverence; and the Empress said, O thou ungrateful Traytor, thy coming availeth thee nothing, for thou shalt die as bad a Death as my wretched Daughter, and I long till I am avenged on thee and all thy Fellows. Then said the Mistress, I thought when I came to have been better treated, and not to be upbraided in this kind as I am. The Empress said, Do you not deserve Death when

when as I delivered you my Daughter well, to be instructed in vertuous Learning, and you have delivered her again unto me Dumb and Graceless, whose lascivious Actions sound all over the Empire? Then said the Mistress, In that you say she is Dumb, I commit that to God, *for he maketh the Dumb to speak, and the Deaf to hear*; and as you say she is a lascivious Creature, I fain would know if the Eye of Man ever saw, or Tongue can justifie any such thing: Therefore, gracious Lady, if you put your Daughter to death thus hastily for the Words of one Man, it will happen to you as it did to a Knight and his God-son, which is mentioned in an Example.

The Empress said, Pray shew me that Example. And the Mistress said, That I shall not do, but if you will cause your Daughter to be brought back again from Death, then shall I gladly shew it to you, which in time to come you will say it is a true one. Then the Empress commanded her Daughter to be brought back and put in Prison; And the Mistress began as followeth:

The Example of the third Mistress.

IT came to pass upon a time that as a Knight was travelling through a strange Country, he chanced to lose his way in a Wood, and could neither discover Churches nor Towns, the Night being so dark, and he a Stranger, knew not what to do, nor whither to go; and as he was complaing to himself, a Man issued through the Thickets, hearing his Complaint, and demanded the Cause of it; O Friend, said the Knight, I am a Stranger to the Country, and have lost my way, and know not whither to go for Accommodations for me and my Horse, which is almost lost in the Brambles of this Wood. The Man said, Sir Knight, it is far to any Inn, and the ways are bad; but if you please to go

with

with me, I shall bring you to my Cottage, and give you the best Accommodation it doth yield. The Knight courteously returned him Thanks, and went along with him, and when he came home, he shewed the Knight a Chamber, and provided for his Horse: But the Knight, through Discontent of his Journey, did not go to Bed, but sat up, and about Midnight he heard a great Cry in the House: He being in such a lone House began to fear some Danger might ensue, and so knocked for to know what that Cry did mean; and the Maid answered, That her Mistress was in Travail, and the Midwife was with her. This Knight being skill'd in Astrology,

went down to see how the Planets did serve, it being a bright Star-light Night, and he saw a bad Planet going down, and a good one rising; signifying, if the Child was born under that, his Fortune was to be hanged; therefore he called the Maid and bid her tell the Midwife to hold her hand one quarter of an Hour, and the Child would be born to good Fortune: The Maid came out again, and told him, that it could not possibly be;

be; then he bid her go in again, and tell the Midwife to stay but one half quarter of an hour, and the Child would be born to good Fortune: she came out again, and brought him word, that her Dame was delivered of a jolly Boy, which was under the bad Planet; then the Knight went in and said nothing concerning the Birth of the Child; but on the Morrow the Father of it came to him saying, Sir, since you have vouchsafed to lodge in my House all Night, be pleased to honour me so far as to name my Child; who answered, That I shall gladly do. And when the Day was come, he named the Child, and writ in a bit of Parchment his Destiny, with a Charge also, that he should pray to God continually to acquit him from that sad Fortune, so he sealed it up with a piece of Wax, and tyed it about his Neck with a silk String, charging his Father and all his Friends not to untye the String to read what it was till such time the Child was able to read it himself, desiring them to keep him at School very carefully, whereby he might attain to that Knowledge as to read the Writing perfectly himself; and thanking the Father for the Favour done him, took his leave, and so departed. When the Child was grown up and fit to be instructed, he was put to School, and very carefully attended till he was ten Years of Age, at which time he was capable to read the Writing that was about his Neck: And upon a time as he was by himself, he took it off his Neck, and opened it, and read it, wherein he found his Destiny written in these Words, My good Child, serve God, and pray to him continually to pass this Fate over thee, else thy Fortune is to be hanged. When the Child had read this, he lifted up his Eyes to Heaven and begg'd a Blessing from the Lord, and went home very sad and melancholy, and desired of his Father to give him one new suit of Cloathes, and a little Money in his Pocket, and his Blessing; his Father

ask-

asked him the Reaſon of his Requeſt: Then ſaid the Child, Pray give it me, for I will go ſeek my Fortune;

his Father did according as the Child required, ſo he took leave of his Friends, and parted from his Father. Well go, ſaid he, and my Bleſſing with thee; ſo the Boy travelled into a ſtrange Country, ſtill Praying to God to acquit him of that unhappy Fortune he was predicted to; and at laſt he came to a Knight's Houſe, and deſired a Service; the Knight asked him what he could do, he ſaid, Sweep your Hall, draw Beer, and run upon your Errands, and what other Service I am able to do. The Knight ſaw him a hopeful Boy, and very willingly entertained him, and he proved marvellous careful and diligent in whatſoever he took in hand, and at all ſpare times he would be upon his Knees at Prayers, deſiring God to paſs that unhappy Fate over him. The Knight obſerving this, ſoon after, plac'd him under Butler, and there he continued in the ſame rule, Praying to God continually, whereby the Knight had a great diſcerning Eye on him. In this Place he

had not been many Years, but the head Butler died, and the Knight put him in his Place; and being there he was Obedient to his Master, Courteous to his Fellow-servants, and Pleasing to all; but the Baker and the Brewer murmured greatly, How may this be, yonder Fellow was taken up as a poor Beggar-boy at the Door but the other Day, and first he was under Buttler, now he is head Buttler, what will he come to? but this past on, he grew in Favour still, and being a Scholar, his Master made him under Steward, which place he discharged with great Trust and Faithulness; then his two Adversaries murmured ten times more, yet he grew in Favour more still with the Knight, till at last the head Steward died; then he was preferred in that Place, and from that time forwards his Adversaries fought his Destruction: yet when he was in this place, he never waxed Proud nor Ambitious, but always Trusty, Humble, Meek, and Lowly, and when he had served in the Place of head Stewardship the space of five Years, he had a mind to see his own Country, and therefore delivered up all his Accounts just and square. He asked leave of the Knight, who granted his request very willingly, and lent him a Horse, and gave him a great store of Money to go with, saying, Thou hast been a Just and Faithful Servant to me, go, and my best Word be with thee; and when his Horse was tied at the Door, and he ready to depart, there came to him the Baker and the Brewer, deceitfully to take their leaves of him, saying, They must drink with him at parting, and as he was drinking with one in the Cellar, the other opened his Portmantle, and put therein a great gilt Bowl, and so shut it again: Then he went and drank with him and so departed; but he had not been gone above a mile, but these two Fellows made Inquisition for the Bowl, and the Knight asked who should have it: Who should, said they, but your trusty Friend and Servant,

that

that is newly gone, who hath been as very a Thief as ever breathed since he came to you; and has robb'd you daily, though you would not believe it: Therefore pray ride along with us, and we'll bring him back again, and you shall see he has the Bowl: So the Knight rid after him, and overtook him, and pray'd him to come back, for had a little Business with him; so when he came, they searched his Portmantle, and found the Bowl: When the Knight saw that, he admired at it, and said, O thou wicked Wretch, I have been told how thou hast robb'd me daily, and impoverished my Estate, but I would never believe it, now I see it plainly with my Eyes, for which fact thou shalt be hanged at the Gallows.

The young Man stood up, and said, Of this fact I am innocent; and thou eternal God, who holdeth the secrets of all Mens Hearts in thy Hands, knows that I am guiltless, send me Justice now, O great Lord of Heaven and Earth, that thy everlasting Truth may take place, and this hidden Treachery be brought to light. And as they were leading him away to Prison, he said, Well, now I perceive that Fortune is Fortune, let the World go how it will; and his Master hearing him, said, What mean you by that? and he said, When my Mother was in travel of me, there was a strange Knight lodged in the House, and forsaw my Destiny by his art in the Planets, and at the Request of my Father he was my God-father, and then writ in a little piece of Parchment my sad Fate in these words following, My good Child, serve God, and pray continually that thy sad fate may pass over thee, for thy fortune is to be hanged; and sealed it up in wax, and tyed it with a silk string, and put it about my Neck, charging my Father, that no one should read it till I was capable to read it my self; wherefore I came to travel, and also obeying the words, and praying continually to God to

escape it, I see it doth follow me undeserved, as you now see. The Knight hearing this, demanded to see the writing, which specified his Destiny, and he took the String from about his Neck, and gave it the Knight, who as soon as he saw it, he said, O the Mercy of the eternal God of Heaven, whose love to his Servants is incomprehensible, this is my own Hand-writing; I writ thy Destiny, and I am thy God-father, O bring him back again, let us examine the Cause better; then he called the two false Accusers before him, and strictly examined each of them, threating sad punishment if they would not confess, and at last they confest that they stole the Cup, and put it in his Portmantle; for which they were both hanged, and the young Man saved. And then said the Mistress, Understand you what I have said? Yes, right well, said the Empress; Now I do perceive that very often the Wicked committeth the fact, and the Innocent are condemned. You have shewed me a good Example, therefore my Daughter shall not die. Great Lady, said the Mistress, if you do so, you will do well, and I thank ye for sparing your Daughter this Day for my sake, and therefore to God I commend you.

The fourth Complaint of Radamentus.

WHen *Radamentus* heard the young Princess was not dead, but rather pardoned, he walked up and down the Garden like a Man bereaved of his Wits, and made great Lamentation; the noise thereof came to the Empress's Ear, and she went in all haste to him, and comforted him, saying, My grave Lord and Counsellor, why make you this moan? it behaveth not a Man, especially such as you are, so accomplisht well in Wisdom and Discretion, to groan out such sad Complaints? O Madam, said *Radamentus*, why should you

tell

tell me so, will it not make a Stone move, or a Wall of Brass speak, to see that your Judgment is so much stupified, as not to be advised by my grave Counsel, knowing no Man ought to tell you more than my self, that you suffer such pestilential Feavers to remain not qualified nor oppressed: O that I had died before I had been elected to come into these Parts, for what Honour or Reputation I ever gained formerly, I shall now receive ten times as much Shame and Dishonour; but I fear it will happen to you as it did unto a Lady in *Thessaly* with her Deer, which is mentioned in the Example. Then said the Empress, I pray shew me that Example for my learning, that I may be better instructed. If I should, said *Radamentus*, it would avail nothing, for I shewed you one yesterday, and it came to no effect; nevertheless, I shall shew you this, which is as followeth:

The fourth Example of Radamentus.

SOmetimes in *Rome* there lived a great Lady which had a famous Park of Deers, the like was not in all the Land; she had also a very gallant Hound, which was presented to her by the best Huntsman in the World: and this Lady delighted much in Hunting, and appointed a day for the tryal of this brave Dog; and when the day was come they rouzed a Buck, and followed the Chace, up the Hills, down the Dales, through the Thickets, Brakes and Boggs, the like hunting ne'er was known in that part of the World. For the Dogs hunted upon hot sent seven Days together, till all the Followers were tyred both Foot and Horse, and left the whole Game to the Dog, yet still the Buck maintained his Ground, and the Dog his Chace, throughout the Kingdom of *Thessaly* three hundred Miles an end: The Lady and her Noble Barons gave all for lost, some of

them cryed, We ſhall never ſee the Buck again; ſaid the Lady, I ſhall never have my Dog again: And when they had yielded all as loſt, there came a Letter from the King of *Ægypt*, he knowing ſhe ſo delighted in hunting, and the tenure of it was, that there came a Buck chaſed by a Dog, through ſome part of his Dominions, and that they were come into the Kingdom of *Theſſaly*: The Lady hearing this, ſaid, Doubtleſs, this Dog and this Buck, by all deſcription ſhould be mine; and as ſhe was thus muſing, the keeper brought in word that the Buck and Dog was come; then the Lady rejoyced and ran into the Park to ſee the Buck and Dog, and there they found the Buck leapt juſt over the Wall and fell down and the Dog ran to the Wall, and he fell down only wearied, but not to Death; then ſaid the Keeper: This Buck is the beſt Runner in all *Theſſaly*; and the Lady ſaid, This Dog is the beſt in all the World; and therefore all the Nobles and Barons that ever came there a hunting praiſed that Dog and loved him wonderfully. Now there was an Obſervation on this Dog, for he loved the Park ever after, and the ſame Buck he before chaſed above all others; ſo that he was obſerved to go every Night about Midnight, to defend the Deer from any ravenous Beaſts which ſhould chance to come, as Wolves or ſuch-like Creatures; and this did he conſtantly upon his own accord, ſo that ſuch a Dog was never heard of before. And it chanced after, that the ſame Huntſman which gave the Lady this brave Dog, preſented her with another Wolf-dog, young and tender, and of a moſt curious Shape and Form, which alſo won the affections of the Lady marvellouſly, for that ſhe loved him as ſhe loved her Life; and whoſoever ſhould tell her that this Wolf-dog would prove the better Courſer, ſhe would rejoyce, and give them great rewards; ſo that her love to the Hound began to decline for he was wont to quarrel with her young Dog, being

of

of two contrary natures, for which she would kick him and much reject him; but the young Dog grew apace, well formed, fair and comely: Not far from the Court lived Seven Wise Mistresses, whom she sent for to pass

their Judgments upon this young Dog, what they thought of him? And the first said, it was the faireſt Dog that ever she saw, and it would make a good Courser; then the second said, it was the comeliest Dog that ever she saw, and he would make a stately Keeper; the third said, it was the tallest Dog that ever she saw, and would be fit for a Princely Game; the fourth said, it was the stongest Dog that ever she saw, and would be a brave Companion in a Forrest; the fist said, it was the furiousest Dog that ever she saw, and was fit to keep a Treasury; the sixth said, it was a Dog in her Judgment exceeded all others; and the seventh said, it was a Dog, if well taught and preserved, the whole World could not parallel for his Equal. Then said the Lady, I thank you all for the great commendations you give of my Dog, therefore I shall prize him as I do the

greatest Jewel I have; but I have an excellent Hound besides, which on his own accord doth watch my Deer every Night and preserve them from Wolves, and the like savage Beasts, and they two can never agree. Then said the first Mistress, The Hound is something ancient, and probable might not live long; the Wolf-dog is young and lusty, and the best of his days are to come; and since they cannot live both together quietly, it is expedient one should die, therefore let the Hound be destroyed. Then the Lady gave command that the Hound should be hang'd immediately; and soon after the Hound was dead, many Deer were lost out of the Park, there they put the Wolf-dog to watch, yet for all that a Deer in two or three Nights was constantly lost, and still the Lady wondered how this might be, and the Wolf-dog watching too; so she put a Man to watch all Night in a Tree, to espy out what Beast came to destroy her Deer, and by the light of the Moon he discovered the Wolf-dog upon a lusty Buck, having tore his Throat. When the Morning came, the Lady sent for him to know what he had seen; and he said, I have seen what it is that kills the Deer now; Declare, said the Lady, what it is; and he said, it is even your own Wolf-dog, whom you put to watch them; then the Lady looked sad in the Face, and began to complain greatly, saying, Alas, have I destroyed the Shepherd, and put a Wolf in his stead; have I then, thro' the wicked Advice of yonder foolish Women, hang'd my good and trusty Hound, which look'd to my Herd, and preserv'd them from the ravenous Wolves; the bravest Courser and flower of all Dogs in *Thessaly*, and have here put a ravenous Murtherer of my Deer to keep the Park: and with these Words she struck the Dog three or four Blows with her Cain, and the marsterless Cur grumbled as if it had been a Lyon; and then said the Lady, How now, Deer-killer, and smote him again; but before she struck the fifth Blow, he rear'd

up-

upon her Breast, and slew her before the Eyes of her Servants: Then all People cursed the Counsellours which advised the Lady to keep that evil Dog, and to kill the good Hound. Then said *Radamentus*, Understand you what I have said? Yes, right well, said the Empress. Then said he, I will shew you the Declaration thereof.

The Declaration of the Example.

THe Lady delightful in Hunting, signifieth your self in vertuous Recreation, so that all Kings of the Earth do hear of your Fame, as the King of *Ægypt* did of her Game; the large and spacious Park is your Empire, and the Deer therein are your Subjects, the good Hound watching them, is your wise and good Discretion, defending them from ravenous Wolves, in keeping us in Peace and Safety from the bloody Hands of cruel Tyrants; the fair and the masterless Wolf-dog is your stubborn and graceless Daughter, who by her ill Examples and bad Precedents will delude all your good Subjects, and in the end destroy them as the Dog did the Deer; the foolish Women that counselled the Lady to kill the good Hound, and let the Wolf-dog live, is your seven Wise Mistresses, which daily labour to advise you to suppress your Vigilancy and wise Care of your Subjects, and let your filthy lascivious Daughter live, whereby she may reign in bloody Tyranny, and glut herself with the flesh of your People; the Man in the Tree that discovered the Dog in killing the Deer, was my self in my Chamber-window, espying your Daughter (that shameless Wretch) in the Garden under a Tree something obscure, with a Man committing the foul Sin of Fornication, and all other beastly Behaviour; for which detestable and abominable Act she ought to die according to the Law; for if she live, she will by her ill Ways give base Examples, and destroy many

many others: If then you correct her for it she will (like unto the Wolf-dog) leap upon your Breast, and cut your Throat. Then said the Empress, That Dog the Lady loved so dearly tore her Throat at last, but my Daughter shall not do so: Then she commanded her Officer to lead her away to the Stake; and as she was led through the streets with Trumpets sounding her doleful Funeral, all the People ran out making a sad noise, crying, Alas, alas, alas, the Empress's only Daughter is led again to the Stake. Then the fourth Mistress leapt upon her Horse, and hasted away to the Empress, and did Obeysance to her, who said, O thou cursed old Wretch, little Thanks shalt thou have for thy ill Instructing my Daughter, and bringing her to what she is now gone to; I deliver'd her to you finely taught, modest and well-manner'd, and you delivered her again to me ill taught, full of Vice, and dumb, and a shameless Whore, for which this day she is to die, to the disparagement of the Empire, and disgrace of all her Lineage; I would the day of her Birth, had been the day of her Burial. O gracious Lady, then said the Mistress, I little thought of this Entertrinment, surely I have not deserved the least of this your Displeasure; and for why your Daughter speaketh not, I commit the cause to God, and in short time you shall know the reason, but the time is not come yet: She is accused to have committed the foul Sin of Fornication, that is false, and is not to be proved; therefore you ought not put your only Daughter to death for the Words of one single Person, though it were Justice, and if you put her to Death for one Man's saying, it shall be worse to you than to the Queen, who for putting too much confidence in Counsellors had her only Daughter cut in pieces before the Altar, and herself after stoned to death.

Then said the Empress, Declare that Example for my learning. That I shall not do, said the Mistress, unless you

you send for your Daughter back again, otherwise she may be dead before I make an end, then should I talk to in you vain. Then the Empress commanded her to be brought back again and put in Prison, while the Mistress spake as followeth:

The Example of the fourth Mistress.

SOmetime there lived in the Kingdom of *Thracia* a famous Queen named *Hecuba*, who built a strong City of Defence, double wall'd, and moated round; she was a peaceable Queen, and at Variance with none, save only the King of *Lycia*, being a quarrelsome Prince; and he came against her with an invincible Army, and besieged her round; wherefore she call'd before her in Counsel her two Counsellors named *Anthinor* and *Eneus*; and they assembled all the Noble Citizens to advise how to preserve their City, and gave their Ene-

mies Battle; and when they had fortified their Walls, and planted their Guards, *Anthinor* issued out with ten thou-

thousand Men and made a great slaughter among the Enemies, and so returned back into the City; then their Enemies recruited again, and fell on to scale the Walls, but were driven back by the Citizens: Then *Eneus* went out and fought with great Valour, but lost many Men, and so returned into the Town. At last *Anthinor* addressed himself to the Queen, and told her it were good to conclude Peace with the Enemies, for they had lost many Noble Persons of Honour, among whom were the Queen's two Sons, for which they made great Moan; and therefore he advised the Queen to conclude a Peace, that the Enemies may depart without destroying the City, for they could not maintain it against such an invincible Power, though the City was well fortified, and strengthted enough to have beaten twice as many; yet the Queen believed these two evil Counsellors, which proved arrand Traytors; then the harmless Queen asked them, who they should have to go treat for them? Then *Eneus* stood up and said, If it seemeth good to the Queen, and to all you Citizens, for the Honour of the Queen, the Safeguard of our City, and the Preservation of our Lives, *Anthinor*, and I, being expert in all Laws and Customs, upon so weighty a matter as this, will go forth. The Queen liked well of what he said, reposing more confidence in them than any other, and all the Citizens accorded to it: And *Anthinor* and *Eneus* went forth and sounded a Parley, and the Enemies Heralds came and fetcht them in; and *Anthinor* said, We have wrought so about with our Queen, that we have obtained leave to come and conclude a League or Truce with you; but if you will grant us our Demands, as we shall ask of you, we will betray the City into your hands, to do with it as it seemeth good to you; then they all promised to grant their Demand, Then said *Anthinor*, You shall give us a thousand Marks in Gold, and withal our Rights and Priviledges, and

save

ſave all the Lives of our Friends and Kindred, with the Preſervation of all our Houſes, Lands, and Poſſeſſions. Then ſaid their Enemies, All theſe things are granted, and we are ready to ſwear the Confirmation of it, which they immediately did: Then ſaid *Anthinor*, We muſt be very private in this thing for we muſt make a counterfeit Truce with ye, and you muſt ſend this Word in anſwer to our Meſſage, thus:

That you require a hundred thouſand Marks of Gold to pay your Army, and ten thouſand Meaſures of Wheat to make them Bread, and to ſet up a Brazen Horſe within the City in the Temple of *Interva*; and this Horſe, ſaid *Anthinor*, muſt be caſt hollow, wherein a thouſand Men may ſtand all armed; and when it is in the Temple, and you have receiv'd your Gold and Wheat, which I will order, then you muſt draw your Army off the Town, as they may ſuppoſe you are going away: Then when the Citizens think all is ſecure, and are in Bed aſleep, then ſhall the armed Men in the Brazen Horſe come forth, and *Eneus* and I will give you the ſign by a Light on the Wall; and when you ſee that, advance with all your Army on the back-ſide of the Town, and we will open the Gates to you: Then do with the City as you ſee good; only remember *Eneus* and I, and our Contract: And, ſaid *Anthinor*, with theſe words we will depart, and acquaint the Queen of it, and we ſhall come forth to Morrow again to acquaint you of her Anſwer; ſo took leave of them, and departed home into the City, and told the Queen what the Enemies requeſted, which was an hundred thouſand Marks of Gold, and ten thouſand Meaſures of Wheat, and they would depart home into their own Country, only they would leave behind them a Brazen Horſe, which they had provided as a *Memorandum* or Mark of Conqueſt. Then the Queen ſighed deeply, and ſaid, What, have I loſt ſo many of my deareſt Friends, and

ſo

so much of the stately Walls of my City demolished, and now must I be constrained to pay so much Gold and Wheat unto my very Enemies, and hire them to go home into their own Country? O Woe is me that ever I was born! But since it must be so, go tell them, *Anthinor*, I do grant their Demands; then *Anthinor* and *Eneus* went forth again, and said to the Enemies, Your Request is granted, according to all that we have contrived, and you are to appoint the Day to receive it, that we may make it ready; after you have that, then we'll be for the City: So the Day was appointed, and all was got ready, they receiving it all, then they drew the Brazen Horse into the City, and plac'd it in the Temple, though little thought the harmless Queen what Hellish Plot lay in the Belly of the Horse. On the Morrow all the Enemies drew off from the City towards Night, and the poor Citizens supposing they were all departed towards their own Country, rejoyced all, and through Weariness, being up very many Nights before, went to Bed, and at Midnight, in the dead time of their sleep, *Anthinor* went to the Brazen Horse, and call'd forth that thousand armed Men, and *Eneus* went upon the back Tower, and held up in his hand a blazing Torch which gave Intelligence to the bloody Enemy; so they came and entred the Town, that all the streets were full, and then *Anthinor* and *Eneus*, the bloody Traytors, shewed them their Houses and Possessions, but for the harmless Queen in her Palace was no respect at all; and this Queen had a fair, and beautiful Daughter named *Palestina*, the like was not in all the World; the wicked *Anthinor* would have ravish'd her sometime before the Seige, and she refusing, caused him to work this their utter Destruction; and as the Queen and her Daughter were at Prayers, they heard a woful Cry in the City; then they were struck with Jealousie of Wicked *Anthinor*'s Treachery; so the Queen ran in-

to

to the Temple, and *Palestina*, the youug Lady, poor Soul, ran and hid herself in an old Tower, by which time the Enemy had not left alive neither Man, Woman, nor Child throughout the whole City. Then *Anthinor*, the Traytor, came to the Temple, and seeing the Queen there, asked where her Daughter was? who replyed, O ungrateful Traytor, is not thy wicked Bowels glutted yet with Tyranny? Then he went to the old Tower, and there found her, and drag'd her out, and gave her to the Enemy, who led her to the Altar, and before her Mother's own Eyes they cut her in four Quarters, and threw them about the Temple: The Queen at the horrid sight fell down in a swoon, and when she recovered Life again, said, Now Villians, glut your selves with Tyranny: So tore the hair off her Head, and the cloths off her Body, and went stark mad out of her senses; wherefore the wicked Tyrants carried her into a strange Island, and there miserably ston'd her to Death, and after burnt her City to the ground, and return'd home into their own Country.

Aud then the Mistress said to the Empress, Understand you what I have said? How a Queen by putting too much Confidence in two evil Counsellors came at last to have her Daughter cut in pieces before her own Eyes, herself stoned to Death, her Subjects massacred, and her whole City destroyed: therefore be advised, and put not your own Daughter thus to death for the Words of one Counsellor, least it happen to you as it did to this harmless Queen. The Empress said, You have shown me a good Example, though it grieves my Heart to think of it, for they were the wickedest Counsellors that ever were; surely I will take no such Advice, for my Daughter shall not die. The Mistress said, If you perform that, you will do wisely, and I thank you for sparing your Daughter this day for my sake, and so I commit you to God.

The fifth Complaint of Radamentus.

Radamentus hearing the young Princeſs was not dead, forthwith retired into his Chamber, ſighing and ſobbing moſt bitterly, and cauſed all his apparel and neceſſaries to be made ready, and his Waggons and Horſes brought up, as though he was juſt going into his own Country: The Servants perceiving their Lord was departing from the Court, acquainted the Empreſs that *Radamentus* their Lord was preparing for his own Country; when the Empreſs perceived that, ſhe haſted to his Chamber, and ſaid to him, O my grave Lord, I thought you had been more tender of my ſafety, and Government of the Empire, than to go and leave me thus? to which he anſwered, 'Tis true, I tender your welfare as much as I do my life, and you know I have had a care of your reputation, and the ſafety of the Empire, but now I ſee you are going in the highway to ſhame me, and diſhonour your ſelf, and ruine the whole Realm; the World knowing I am your Aſſiſtant and do think 'tis all my advice in what you do, ſupporting Bawdry, and other Vices, and in the very Court it ſelf: Had it been Vertue, the World had nev'r taken notice on't; but being Vice, the tongue of every inferiour Fellow does noiſe it abroad, like the breath of a Trumpet, or a Herald at Arms, through all the parts of the World: Therefore I go from you, for I had rather hear of your ruine than ſee it; you will be ruled by the Words of the fooliſh Miſtreſſes, till at laſt it will happen to you as it did unto a Roman Lady and Daughter, which Example is mentioned: And the Empreſs ſaid, Pray ſhe me that Example for my better underſtanding. And he ſaid, Though I ſhall ſhew you all the Examples in the World, and give you all the advice I may imagine, yea though it tend to the preſer-

vation of both Life and Kingdom, as indeed it doth; yet you would not be ruled by me, nor follow my Counsel: nevertheless I will shew you this Example, provided henceforth you do not delight to hear the Mistresses, whose idle Fables doth subvert your wise Judgment; the Example is as followeth:

The fifth Example of Radamentus.

SOmetimes in *Rome* there lived a famous Lady, whose worth and renown was spread far and near, being beloved of all People, for she was vertuous in conversation, modest in behaviour, gracious to her People, and amiable to all; and in reference to the Poor she was adorned with a free and bountiful liberality, so that she had the Prayers of all: This Lady had two Daughters, both of them very comely; the eldest she kept at home with her, and the youngest she put abroad to be taught and instructed, having a Motherly Care, and in process of time, this Lady sent for her Daughter home, expecting she had learnt much for her Edification; but when she came home, alas, she was never the better, so she grieved very much for her Daughter, in regard the tender love she bare her, and therefore would keep her at home, being the youngest, and set the other abroad; which being done, this young Girl began to do nothing but play, having what liberty she pleased: at last she grew to Maturity, and then she would not go abroad without Money; therefore her Mother gave her Money from time to time: at last she had ways to spend more than her Mother allow'd her, if it had been twice as much, for she kept a private Lover in the City, which her Mother knew not of, and many nights when her Mother was asleep, she would rise and take the Keys from under the Lady's head, and go out to her Lover, and to-

wards break of day come in again, her Mother never perceiving it; but towards morning wondered how her Daughter came so cold, and asked her what was the reason she was so cold; she said, the Cramp had taken her in the Leg, and being loath to wake her, she rose and walked about the Chamber to drive it away, so that excuse past for currant. The next night she awak't and mist her out of the House, and wondering how she got out, put up her hand to feel for her keys, they were gone; so when she came in about break of Day again, she asked her, O Lord, Daughter, where have you been now? Truly, said she, I had a tooth did ake so grievously, that my jaw I thought would have broak, and you being so sound asleep, I was loth to disturb ye, therefore I took the Keys and went forth to the Chyrurgion to draw it, but I could not make him hear me: so this second excuse past as currant as the former, and her Mother said no more of it. Upon another time she espied her Mother's Key of her Cabinet, and she took it and prest it in Clay that it made an impression, and from this impression she got another Key made, whereby she could go to the Cabinet of Money when she pleased; and her Mother missing Money so oft, little thought of her own Daughter, but sometimes fathered the Crime upon the Maid, sometimes upon the Man, that the Family was never but in strife and variance: and upon a time she went to her Mothers Cabinet for more Money, and went away and left her Key behind her in the Cabinet: her Mother seeing a Key in her Cabinet, and knew she had her own in her pocket, let it alone, and watch'd behind the Curtain, to see who would fetch it out; by and by in comes her Daughter, and snatcht the Key out, but her Mother catcht hold of her, and said, O graceless Wretch, is it thee that hast robb'd me these two years together, now I have found thee out: O wick-

wicked Imp, I have been often told of thee, but I would never believe it till now I do see it, for which now thou shalt die a shameful death: but there was living not far off an old Woman, whom this young Imp was wont to take advice of in all her wicked Pranks; therefore in this time of necessity she did send for her to come, and by her craft and cunning to save her Life. When she came, she said, O vertuous Lady, let not your wrath be so furiously bent against her, she is your Daughter whom you have bore of your Body, and gave her suck nine Months from your Breast, for we are all guilty of faults in our Infancy; therefore let her not come to shame for the first time, the severe Law will give reprieve to the veriest Felon for the first fault, much more a natural Mother ought to do for a Child; and if she should thus die, it will accrew great shame to her Family, and you will be branded for Tyranny: Upon these Words the good Mother was pacified, and pardoned her. It happen'd afterwards as the Lady was walking in the evening in her Garden; she espied her Daughter lying with a strange Man under a Bush, then said she, and cryed out with a loud voice, O thou lascivious Creature, worse than any Beast, I have pardoned thee for Theft already, and now thou art fallen into Whoredom; if I suffer this, all People will curse me, and the Paps that gave thee suck; therefore thou shalt die. Then the old Woman came again, and said, O good Lady, save her life, consider she is young, and what she hath done, is through ignorance and foolishness; but remember the old Proverb, *A naughty Boy may make a good Man*, likewise she may amend and become a good Woman; and remember what the Scripture saith, *He that is without fault, let him throw the first Stone*; therefore let her shame be hidden this time, and if ever she commit the like again, do your pleasure upon her: so

through theſe ſtrong deluſions and fooliſh perſwaſions, the good Lady was again perſwaded, and pardoned her, but ſaid to the old Woman, It is very ſeldom that any who are addicted to Theft and Whoredom, but commonly are guilty of Murther alſo. God grant that I never hear of ſuch a thing by her, for I fear it greatly: To prevent which, the Godly Mother kept her within doors ſo ſtrict, that ſhe could not go abroad to her Lover to feed him with Money as ſhe was wont to do; therfore he would come to her and ſpeak to her through the Window, where ſhe threw him many of her Mother's pieces of Plate and other Things; then the Lady marvelled greatly how her things ſhould be loſt, and her Daughter never go out of door, no farther than the great Window, where ſhe did obſerve ſhe ſtood every night: and it came to paſs that one night the Lady herſelf was ſtanding under that Window late, hearing the pretty Nightingale warbling her ſeveral notes; and her Daughter ſuppoſing ſhe had been her Lover, threw out the great ſilver Goblet; the Lady perceiving out of what Window it came, took it up and came in with it, and askt for her Daughter, and the Maid ſaid ſhe was in the middle Window; Call her to me, ſaid the Lady, when ſhe came, ſhe bid her go fetch her ſome Wine in the Goblet, and ſhe ſaid, ſhe had been looking for that, and it could not be found: Then the Lady took the Goblet and ſhewed her, ſaying, Wilt thou never leave thy Tricks, thou graceleſs Villian now ſhalt thou die ſurely a ſhameful death, the juſt reward of thy deſerts. Then news came again to the old Woman that the Lady's Daughter was to die, and ſhe came in all haſte, crying to the Lady to ſave her life but once more, and ſhe would undertake to adviſe her, and bring her to goodneſs herſelf: Upon this the Lady pardoned her once more. Now this Daughter loved a Man which was poor, and both a

Thief

Thief and a Murtherer, whom her Mother would not suffer her to marry, but she marryed him without her consent; she had nothing to maintain him with, neither had he of himself; therefore she took counsel of the old Woman what to do, who advised her to take a little of her poisoned Ball, and when her Mother called for Beer, to put in two Drams, saying, That will dispatch your Mother, then you may have all, and take your Lover. The wicked Imp was glad of this Advice, and did execute it; her Mother having took it, called for some more drink, the Poison wrought so hot in her Guts: when she filled the Cup again, she put in more, and the harmless Lady took it out of the Hand of the bloody Villian, as from a Friend, so drank it up, and gave up the Ghost, being aged fourscore and ten: for which horrid fact the wicked Wretch was burnt at a stake. Thus was a harmless Lady first robbed of her Goods, and after murthered by a wicked Daughter she best loved. Then said *Radamentus*, Understand ye what I have said? Yes, right well, said the Empress, that was the wicked'st Daughter that I ever heard of; to prevent such mischief, my Daughter shall not live a day longer: Therefore she commanded her Officers to lead her away to be burnt, and as she was leading through the Streets, the People ran out, and cryed, Alas, alas, alas, the Empress's Daughter is leading again to be burnt; and as she past by, the fifth Mistress met her, and hasted away to the Empress, doing her Reverence as the others were wont: then said the Empress, You are come, but it shall be the price of your life; the Mistress said, O Lady, I have not deserved to die, for your Daughrer hath not committed those Crimes which ye say she hath done, as hereafter you shall find; and that she speaketh not is her Wisdom at present, and know ye she will speak when her time cometh: And as for the sin of Fornication, believe it

not, for a wise Virgin as she is, would never attempt so shameful a Deed; and if ye put her to death for the Words of one Man, it shall happen to you worse than it did to the Queen of *China*. Then said the Empress, Pray shew me that Example? That I shall not do, said wise *Debora*, unless you call your Daughter back again, else before I make an end your Daughter may be dead: then the Empress commanded her to be brought back; then *Debora* spake as followeth:

The Example of the fifth Mistress.

SOmetime in *China* lived a vertuous Queen, Renowned far and near; for whose Wisdom and good Discretion she was espoused to a great Eastern King, who had a grave Counsellor, without whom he wou'd do nothing: This Queen being married to this great King, soon after there arose a great Rebellion in his Country from whence he came, whereby he was constrained to go to suppress the rude Multitude, which he soon did, and to settle the Uniformity, staid there for the space of half a year, by which time his Queen was grown big with Child; and this old Counsellor, whom the King left at home as Guardian of her, wrote Letters to the King, that she was very familiar with a Nobleman in the Court, whose name was *Palemedis*, and that he thought what she went withal was a Bastard: Thus did he through wicked treachery, thinking to himself, the King was ancient, and would be the more filled with Jealousie, and if he could destroy the Queen and that she went withal, soon after the King would die, then said he, I shall rule the Land; and from that time forth he sought their destruction. Now when the King had received his Letter, he hasted home, and rail'd at his Queen, saying, she was a Whore, and what she went withal was a Bastard, and would not suffer her to

come into his company: Then this old Traytor went to the Queen, pretending friendship under the falsehood, and advised her to go in a merry way and present the King a Bowl of Wine; and she alwaies thinking he had been a most faithful Friend, did as he had advised her, and before she brought it, he wrote a Libel and dropt it in the King's chamber: This Libel expresst thae if the Queen at such a time did present him with a Bowl of Wine, he was a dead Man, for it was Poyson; and as the Queen came in with innocent love, presented the King with the Bowl of Wine, he took his Foot and kickt it all down, saying, Thou wicked Wretch, now I do perceive thy vile Actions, thou hast defiled my Bed, and defamed my Honour, and art thou now come to Poyson me, I swear thou shalt die the cruellest death as may be thought on: so commited her to Prison, and as she lay there she breathed out these Complaints:

O Fortune, why hast thou used me thus? I am a King's Daughter, and was born Heiress to a flourishing Kingdom, and instead of a Palace with rich Perfumes, I am here chocked up in a Dungeon of filthy Fogs: When I thought to be imbraced within Princely Arms, and courted with Royal Salutations, I am here accused with slanderous Crimes, that the Gods themselves do know that I am innocent of; and thus through grief and sorrow, and her time being near, she fell in travel, and was delivered of a comely Girl: then news was brought the King that the Queen was delivered of a Girl, said he, Take that Brat and throw it into the Sea: when the Messenger came and told the Queen, she wrung her lilly-white Hands, and the tears gushed from her christal Eyes, running down her roly Cheeks, and she said, Ah wretched Babe, hardly conceived in the Womb before envied, and now scarcely born before thy death determined, and must the wide

Ocean be thy Nursery, and the raging Waves thy rocking Cradle, and nothing but the Firmament thy Covering Cloath or Canopy! O, then let the Gods of Fortune be thy Guide, and the whistling Billows sing thy Lullaby: so kist her tender Lips, bathing them with brinish Tears, and so parted: and then they put the Babe in a Cock-boat, covering it with Boughs and green Leaves, and hoisted it a float the Sea, and it

happened that the Waves tost it ashore in a strange Country, that it lay by the Sea-side among the Segs; and as a Shepherd came that was looking stray Sheep, he heard the Child cry, and he thinking it had been his stray Sheep browsing upon the edge of the Rocks, he hasted down for to see, and there he found the Cock-boat rested upon the Sea-sand; so he took the Child and bread it up, and it grew to be the beautifullest Girl in all the World, and the Shepherd put her upon the Mountain to keep Sheep; so it chanced, that the King her Father came a hunting that way, and looking upon her, said, Fair Shepherdess, what Flock do you be-

belong to, or what may they be that the Goddeſſes themſelves have made you Gardian to? ſhe anſwered the King, I am a poor Shepherd's Daughter, and bred up in yonder Cottage: then ſaid the King, Fair Virgin, will you leave off your Flock and come to Court, there your Eyes ſhall be raviſhed with triumphant Shews, and your Ears glutted with delightful Muſick, you ſhall drink out of Gold, and be cloathed in Purple? and ſhe anſwered the King, the greateſt Muſick ſhe delighted in, was the bleating of the Sheep, and the greateſt Shews, were their new ſhorn Fleeces, a Shepherd's Weed was greater Content to her than Purple, and a Wooden Diſh more fitter than Gold. Then the King marvelled greatly, and went to the old Shepherd, and demanded of him whoſe Daughter ſhe was, and he ſaid 'twas his? Nay, ſaid the King, that cannot be, for her Beauty ſhews her to be of Princely Race, and ſaid, if he would not tell him the truth, he ſhould die a cruel death, and commanded him to be led to the Gallows. Then the Shepherd fell down upon his Knees, and beſought the King that he would ſpare his Life and he would tell him, Speak on, ſaid the King. My Lord, (ſaid he) upon a time as I was by the Sea-ſide looking for ſtray Sheep, I heard ſomething cry, and I ſuppoſing it had been my ſtray Sheep that I miſſed; I went to ſee, and there I found a ſmall Boat the Waves had caſt aſhore, and therein a Child wraped in a Scarlet Mantle, and a piece of Writing in theſe Words:

Who e're thou art this Child doth find,
Make much of it, to her prove kind,
She mighty Honour may thee bring,
Being only Daughter to a King;
Be tender, loving, then to ſhe,
One day thou ſhalt rewarded be.

When

When the King heard this, he knew she was his Daughter that he commanded to be thrown into the Sea, and said, Since the Gods and Fortune has favoured her, I have no reason to hate her; therefore he commanded her to be brought home to the Palace, and clothed her in most rich array, and made her sit at his right hand; after that, he dispacth'd four of his Noblemen to the Island of *Delphos*, to inquire of the Oracle of *Apollo*, whether the Queen was guilty of the Charge laid against her; and when they came into the Temple before the Oracle, they did their Reverence, and the Oracle spake, and said,

Stand here two days, and speak not one Word, and the third day you shall find on the back side of the Oracle a Scroll of Parchment sealed up; that take and haste away to the King, and break it not up till you come into the Judgment-hall, and before all the Counsel, there the King shall find the truth written; then they did their Obeysance, and so departed, and took shipping, and the seventh day they arrived in their own Country; when they came before the King, they acquainted him what the Oracle had commanded them to do, and forthwith the King assembled all his Lords into the Judgment-hall, every one expecting a sad Doom for the Queen; but when the Scroll was broak open, and read, it proved thus, saying, *The Queen is Innocent, her Child is lawfully begotten, the old Counsellor is the Traytor; and the King shall die without an Heir, if Equity and Justice takes not place.* When the Councel heard this, they all rejoyced, and the King sent immediately for his Queen out of Prison, but the Messenger brought him word again, that the Queen was dead; then the King fell a weeping and wringing his hands, saying, O Miserable Wretch am I that believed such an old cursed Caitiff as I have done! O Woe is me that ever I was born, I caus'd my Child to be drowned in the Sea, had not

God

God and Fortune preserv'd her, and now I have slain my vertuous and innocent Queen by false and bitter Imprisonment, through the advice of an old cursed Villian; surely he shall die the the miserableſt death that may be thought of: and speedily he commanded two wild Horses to be brought, and ty'd the Traytor's two hands to one tail, and his two Leggs to the other; so drew him limb from limb, and threw his quarters to the Beasts of the Field and the Fowels of the Air, as a just reward for such an inhuman Traytor: And then he prepar'd the richeſt Tomb that ever was seen for his Queen, and commanded all the Lords and Barons of the Land to appear at her great Funeral, which was solemniz'd in mighty state, and honourably interr'd her in his Chappel, where upon her Tomb he caused to be ingraven these Words following:

Through ill Advice of evil Traytors, I
Have slain my Queen in woful Misery;
For which Advice I ever shall repent,
And to my dying day be Discontent?
And whosoe're thou art that passes by,
Curse him that caus'd thy Queen to die.

Then said the Empress, you have shewed me a good Example to beware of bad Counsel; therefore my Daughter shall not die: And the Mistress departed from her with a joyful Heart.

The sixth Complaint of Radamentus.

WHen *Radamentus* perceiving by the muttering of his Servants that the young Princess was reprieved again, he grew so impatient that all thought he would have run mad, therefore they ran and told the Empress, that *Radamentus* was going besides himself, for they ne-

never saw him before in such a passion: Then the Empress went to him and said, Wherefore, my good Lord are you so impatient? he answered, O Lady, how shall I hide my Grief? the great Love I bear to you doth prohibit me from leaving you, and if I stay, I see nothing but Ruine and Destruction doth attend on you in suffering such base and lascivious Actions, committed by your graceless Daughter, and not suppressed according to Law, that I am ashamed to go out in the sight of the Sun: My Counsel, which you ought to receive, you slight; and rather believe the old Wives Fables, than my grave Counsel: Therefore I fear it will happen to you worse than it did to the Lady, who tender'd her young Lyon above all she had, till at the last he tore her Throat, as is mentioned in the Example, O my good Lord, said the Empress, shew me that Example? and he said, Gladly that would I do, but it availeth nothing, to morrow you will hear the Mistresses again, nevertheless I'll shew you one Example more, and began as followeth:

The sixth Example of Radamentus.

SOmetimes in *Asia* lived a Lady, who being with Child, longed for a young Lyon, so that Inquisition was made all over *Asia* for a young Lyon; at last a Nobleman being a hunting in a wild Forrest, chanced to catch a Lyon's Whelp, and sent it to the Lady, who no sooner receiv'd it, but fell in Labour and was delivered of a Boy, whom she loved marvellously, and kept the Lyon always by her, feeding it with all the dainties she possible could get, and the Lyon would follow her up and down the House, and seem'd as tame as a Dog: At last he would walk abroad, and run among the Sheep, but meddle with none, that caused the Lady to love him, and tender him like as she did a Child, seeing he run after her so pretily among the

Sheep,

Sheep, and not touch any; but why should he, when his Belly was filled with all the dainties that may be got? But it came to pass upon a time, the Lady went from home, and committed the charge of her young Lyon to her Maid, but alas she gave him not the attendance her Lady did; wherefore he ran out among the Flock, and slew one of the best Sheep therein, and devoured him, when the Lady came home, the the Shepherd complained to her, and said the Lyon had slain one of the best Sheep in the Flock, and the Lady would not believe it, till the Steward came and also verified it; then said the Lady, Alas, if he has slain one of the Flock, it is but through his foolishness, for he is but a Whelp, and tender, and knew not what he did, but if we catch him again doing such a trick, we will correct him for it; and not long after he came into the Flock and slew two, and devoured as much as he

could, the rest that was left a Greyhound of the House found and eat it, the Lyon being come home first, and got to his Couch, there was no suspicion of him, but

the

the poor Greyhound coming home with his Chaps all bloody, was apprehended of the Shepherd, and all the blame put upon him, wherefore the Lady commanded him to be hang'd; therefore according to the old Proverb, *It is better for some to steal an Horse, than another to look over the Hedge:* The third time the Lyon went to the Flock he slew three, and gluted himself in their Blood; then the Shepherd complained the third time, but could have no redress, the Lady still pardoning him, hoping he would mend: And the fourth time he fell among the Flock, slaying and spoiling above twenty, then all People cry'd shame upon the Lady, for keeping a ravenous Beast to destroy so good a Flock; yet the Lady would not kill him, nor hardly give Credit to what they said, nevertheless she kept him in her Chamber close for two or three days, and he lay close by the Cradle where her young Son was; and it happened one Morning, that his wrath began to rise, and his eyes seemed as red as Blood, walking up and down the Chamber, he smelt to the Cradle where the Infant lay, and at last jumpt upon him, and tore him all to pieces, and eat him before the Mother's Face; then the Lady wrung her hands, and curst the time she refused to kill him: But that did not satisfie the the Savage Beast, but after he had dispatch'd the Child, he jumpt upon the Lady, and tore her Joynt from Joynt; and when the Servants ran up and lookt through the Key-hole, all the Chamber was of a gore Blood.

Then said *Radamentus*, I fear it will happen to you as it did unto this poor Lady, in tendering and saving your wicked Daughter so oft, that when she comes to have Power, she will destroy your Subjects the good Sheep, and after bring you to a miserable end. Then said the Empress, Surely that shall not be, for to morrow my Daughter shall die: Then she commanded her Officers to lead her away to the Stake, arrayed all o-

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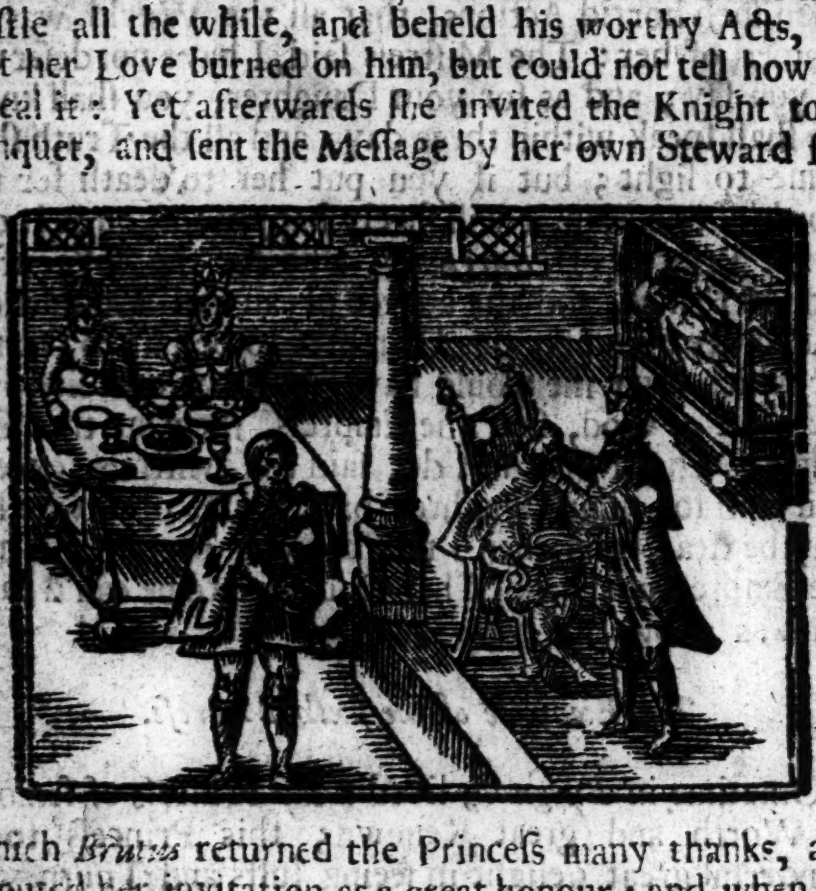
ver in a white Robe, signifying Death: Then all the People cry'd out, Alas, and for evermore! the Empress's Daughter is leading again to die, and they much lamented her Death. Then the sixth Mistress when she heard of it, mounted on Horse-back, and hasted to the Empress; who was no sooner come, but the Empress disdainfully lookt upon her, and threatned her sorely that she should die with her Daughter, for bringing her up in such horrid Actions, that all the World was ashamed of her: The Mistress said, I have not deserved as you say; and as for your Daughter, you shall know she shall speak within three days, and all the Truth shall come to light; but if you put her to death for the words of one Man, it will surely happen to you as it did to the Princess of *Burgundy*, who for the love of a foreign Prince, and the advice of an evil Counsellor, caused her own precious Daughter to be put to Death, for which after she would have given her own life. For the Love of God, said the Empress, shew me that Example? That I shall not do, said the Mistress, except you send for your Daughter back again, otherwise she may be dead, and then I talk to you in vain: Then the Empress commanded her Daughter to be call'd back again as followeth:

The Example of the sixth Mistress.

SOmetime in *Burgundy* lived a fair Princess of famous Worth and great Renown; this Princess took wonderful great delight in seeing Justs and Tourneys: Where upon a time there came several brave Princes and Nobles to shew their Valour before this great Princess, and there assembled together seventy and three brave Heroes, and when the Princess beheld them all, she thought the Magnificency of the whole World were chat day assembled together: Amongst whom

was valiant *Brutus*, one of the Knights of *Malta*; and he behaved himself so valiantly, that all the honour of the day accrewed to him, that the Princess was so much enamoured on him that her Eye was fixed all day long upon the place where he stood; and when the day was over, this valiant *Brutus* came off the Field with Honour, Trumpets sounding, and victorious Trophies bore before him. Now the Lady was in the Window of her Castle all the while, and beheld his worthy Acts, so that her Love burned on him, but could not tell how to reveal it: Yet afterwards she invited the Knight to a Banquet, and sent the Message by her own Steward for



which *Brutus* returned the Princess many thanks, and reputed her invitation as a great honour; and when the day was come, the Knight appeared before the Princess in such a brave gesture and comely deportment, that the Princess was ravisht to see the excellency of his carriage; so they went to Dinner that day, and passed away the time in complemental discourses: Now this Lady had a Daughter most beautiful and fair, full of

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Modesty and Vertue, and of comely features, and upon her the Knight had a fixed Eye; but the Princess never minded that, for she thought the Knight was more ambitious to court her than her Daughter, being young and of tender years, therefore she was clear of any Jealousie of her Daughter: so after they had feasted together for the space of a Week, the Knight most courteously took his leave of the Princess, and departed home into his own Country, promising to come again soon after; but failing to come; the Lady wondering he did not come, she askt her Steward what may be the reason of it? he said, that he perceived the sight of her little Hound did displease him, therefore he would not come; now this Princess loved the Hound as she did the greatest Jewel she had, nevertheless by the Steward's advice she commanded him to be put to Death, Now said she, I hope I shall please the Knight when he comes; soon after the Knight came, and courted the Princess very highly, but as he was coming through a dark Room in the Castle, he chanced to stumble; and he said to himself, I'll never come this way again: The Princess hearing the Knight say so, asked the Steward why he said so? Quoth he, Because the Parrot was in that Room. O, said the Lady, though I prize the Parrot as my life, yet go and kill it: So after they had passed the time away in all Courtly Delights and Princely Sports for the space of a whole Month together, the Knight most courteously took his leave of the Princess, and went again into his own Country, for his affections were altogether knit upon the young Lady, though he did it in Obscurity, and the Princess thought it was upon her self; so the time passed beyond her expectation in looking for the Knight's coming again, and admiring at his Absence so long: asked her Steward what might be the reason of it, of whom she always took Advice: and he said, The Knight has more love

for the young Lady, your Daughter, than he has to you; for always when he is here, she is in his Chamber wantonly playing with him; and she does all what she can to conspire your death; and if she live any longer, she will prove to be your utter Ruine and Destruction. Then the Princess commanded her to be sacrificed upon the Altar to the Oracle of *Apollo*; then there was an Altar erected before the Palace-gate, covered all over with Black, upon which was placed four great Wax-candles set in Sockets of Silver, by which was placed a Block of Ebony, a Chafind-dish of Coles, and a Knife for the Executioner: These being ready, the young Lady was brought upon the Altar, attended by twelve Ladies arrayed all in white Vestments; then the dying Lady spake to the Princess as followeth: *Most reverend Mother, and dread Princess I am here brought to be sacrificed for things laid to my charge I know not of; and if you put me to death, there is a God of all things who knoweth the secrets of all Mens hearts, that will one day bring the Truth to light, to the shame and dishonour of the Unjust, who are guilty of this my innocent Death.* And thus having ended her Speech, and preparing for the Block, *Brutus*, the valiant Knight, rushed into the the Palace-yard, who demanded the Cause of the Multitude; and the People said, that the Princess's Daughter that day was to be sacrified; then the Knight spurred his Steed, and rode among the People, making a lane which way he came, and rescued the Lady from the Altar, and brought her in before her Mother again; and said to the Princess, Madam, you had but three things in your Palace beside yourself, which I delighted in, and those you will destroy. The Princess asked him which were those? and the Knight said, Your Daughter, your Hound, and your Parrot. And the Princess said, My Steward informed me the Hound did offend you, and advised me to kill him; and another

time

time told me the Parrot displeased you, and counselled me to destroy it; And thirdly, My Daughter had most wickedly conspired my Death, for which he advised me to sacrifice her to the Oracle of *Apollo*. Then said the Knight, Call hither the Steward; who being come, he asked him, Did I tell thee the Hound offended me? He said, No. He asked him again, Did I tell thee the Parrot displeased me? And he said, No. Didst thou ever see the Lady in my Chamber? And he answered nothing, but fell down upon his Knees and begg'd Pardon of the Princess. Then said the Princess, O cursed Traytor, what hast thou made me to do, to slay my Hound I loved so dearly, and the Parrot as I did my life, and to attempt the Murther of my only Daughter, through thy treacherous, base and wicked Counsel; surely thou shalt die for't; so commanded him to be led to the Gallows and hang'd. Thus was the virtuous Lady saved, and the unjust Traytor condemned. Now said the Mistress, Understand ye what I have said? Yes, right well, said the Empress, and it rejoyceth my Heart the young Lady was saved; therefore my Daughter this day shall not die. Then said the Mistress, if you do so, you will do well; therefore I commended you to God and thank you for sparing your Daughter this day for my sake.

The seventh Complaint of Radamentus.

WHen *Radamentus* heard the young Lady was pardoned again, he ran up and down the Garden like a mad Man, crying with a loud Voice, O unhappy Man am I that should thus come into this Country, pretending to execute Justice, and I am constrained to suffer Vice to be supported, to the Ruine of the Empress, and Destruction of the Empire, and Shame and Confusion to my own self; I wish I had never come here.

And the Empress said, Leave off such talk, Justice shall be done. O Lady, said *Radamentus*, it will happen to you as it did to the Queen of the Vandals, which is mentioned in the Example. Good my Lord, said the Empress, shew me that Example? That I will gladly do, said *Radamentus*, if you will take example by it, otherwise it availeth me nothing to tell it you, for I have shewed you six already, and yet you are diswaded from them by six foolish Women; nevertheless I will shew you this one, though it be the last I ever shall do.

The seventh Example of Radatnentus.

THere was a Queen of the Vandals upon a time who had a very beautiful Daughter, who she tendered very much, and loved as she did her own life; insomuch that whersoever she went, her Daughter must go along with her; and as they were walking upon a time in the Fields, the young Lady had a Bird in her Hand whom she would very fain have to sing, and because she could not make him sing, she peckt out his two eyes with her Bodkin, and turn'd it loose, and the Bird flew back, and by accident lighted in the Branch of a Vine which grew over the Queen's Window, and there harboured for a while, singing very dolefully every Morning at the Queen's Window: Then said the Queen, O that I knew but what this poor Bird doth so mournfully sing, now his eyes be out! And then stood up an old Man, whose name was *Mimnion*, and said, if it may not offend the Queen, I shall declare the Intepretation of the Song? Then said the Queen, Speak on. And he said, Gracious Lady, the Contents of the Song is a Warning to you to beware and to cut off. The Interpretation is, To beware that your Daughter pick not out your eyes as she did his, and that you cut her off before she come to that Maturity, as to sit upon

your

your Throne with the Crown upon her Head, when you are on the Pavement on your Bare Knees. And the Queen answered, These are but Fables, believe them not; my dear Child is of no such Nature: So past it over like the old saying, *Till the time of Repentance was too late*; for she tender'd her Daughter so much, that she would make her Queen to rule one Year, and herself another, and did ratifie and confirm by her own Hand and Seal, that whatsoever her Daughter did enact or do in her Reign, it should stand as a Law for ever established; so when her Daughter came to Maturity, the Queen would needs see how the Crown would become her, and made her Daughter Queen for that Year, and crowned her in great Pomp: When her Daughter had on the Royal Robe and Crown, and all the Power in her own Hands, she thought it became her so well, that she was loth to part with it, that very Year she taxt her Mother, the late Queen, of High Treason for the Death of her Father, and brought her upon her Knees before the Bar of Justice, and she sate upon the Royal Throne. The Queen perceiving her Daughter's Tyranny began to spring aloft, the night following she made her escape, thinking to raise an Army; but her Daughter being too cunning, laid Watch and Ward round the City and took her again, and to prevent her future Escape, bored both her Eyes out, and then the Queen remembered the singing of the the poor blind Bird, and wept most bitterly, saying, Curst be the time that I refused to obey the Voice of the Bird. After that, this wicked Daughter brought her again to the Bar of Justice, and found her guilty for endeavouring her Escape, that in one day she deposed her of Life, Crown and Kingdom, and after reigned a wicked Tyrant, that all People curst the day she was born. Therefore I fear your wicked Daughter would prove so to you, if you let her live. The Empress said, God for-

bid it should happen so; but to prevent it, to morrow I shall sit in Judgment, and she shall surely die: And on the morrow she commanded her Officers to lead her again to the Stake. When *Penthaſilia*, the seventh Mistress, heard that, away she hasted to the Empress and did her Obeysance, and the Empress frowningly lookt upon her, O thou cursed Caitiff, what hast thou done to my Child, hast thou taught her to be a Whore, a Beast, and a Strumpet, and also cut the Tongue out of her head that she cannot speak? thou shalt die as well as she, for I long to be revenged on thee and all thy Fellows. Then said *Penthaſilia*, Most gracious Empress, the Accusation against your vertuous Daughter is false, and it is but a small time betwixt this and to morrow noon, and if you please to spare her till then, and with the help of the Almighty God she shall speak unto you in all vertuous Learning, and the Truth of all things shall be made manifest; but if you will not, it shall happen to you as it did unto a rich Widow which is mentioned in the Example. Then shew me that Example, said the Empress. That I shall not do, said the Mistress, except you call your Daughter back again; then shall you hear such a notable Example, as you shall beware the Advice of one Man as long as you live; and so began as followeth:

The Example of the seventh Mistress.

UPon a time there was a mighty rich Widow who had a plentiful Estate, and she had one only Daughter, who was Heiress unto it; but it chanced that this Widow being not capable altogether to govern it all, she chose a grave Minister to be her Assistant, now said this old Man, If I could cut off the Heiress, I would quickly juggle the Widow out of it, and then rule as chief Lord my self in it. And to begin his Treachery, he

said to the Widow, I hold it very convenient, since you are a Widow, and I a Batchelor, to conclude a Marriage, and spend our Days together, provided that you will cut off the Intail, and Disinherit your Daughter, whereby we may enjoy it while we do live, and after our decease we will give it to her again. The Widow lik'd this very well, thinking he had advised her to the best, and thereupon disinherited her own Child: Then she asked the old Man to be as good as his promise, who said, I will marry ye, if you will assign the Estate over to me, then I will marry ye on *May*-day next and be careful of your Child, loving to you, and govern it all. Then the Widow hearing that, reposed great Confidence in him, made all her Estate over to him: When this was done, he neither look't after the Child, nor cared for the Widow, which made the Daughter run distracted, and died in the Publick Field; and at *May*-day the Widow wondered why he would not come and perform his Promise, at last went to him, and ask't him, Sir, why do you not perform your Promise, and marry me? Why, said the old Minister, I am ready to marry ye, if you have got a good Husband. Then said the Widow, Will thou not be my Husband? No, said he, I promised but to marry ye. not to be your Husband. The verier Knave you, then said the Widow, so she went out and wept bitterly, saying, That Hand which signed the Estate to yonder curs'd Caitiff from my own Child, shall now end my miserable Life, so stabb'd herself. Then said the Mistress, Understand ye, Madam, what I have said? Yes, right well, said the Empress. Then said the Mistress, Beware, and believe not that old Counsellor, for he does but labour to cut off your only Daughter, and after to Ruine you, so that he may Reign as Lord and Emperor. You have shewed me a good Example, said the Empress, though it grieves my Heart to hear it proved so fatal to the Widow; therefore my Daughter

shall not die this Day, but I shall rejoyce exceedingly to hear her speak to Morrow. Said the Mistress, By the Assistance of the Divine Powers she shall speak, whereby she shall decide all the Variance betwixt *Radamentus* and us, and you shall see the Truth brought to light; so took leave of the Empress, and departed.

CHAP. VI.

How Sabrina, *the Empress's Daughter complained of* Radamentus, *and how she excused herself of her Accusation.*

NOw all the Mistresses, *Penthisila*, *Debora*, *Cicere*, *Degenera*, *Boadicia*, *Mardula*, and *Helicuja* took counsel how they should bring the Princess out of Prison to the Palace; so they went to the Princess on the Morrow betimes to counsel, and the Princess said, Take no care what I shall say, I am provided already: then all rejoyced, and clothed her in cloth of Gold, and put her in a Chariot, drawn by six milk white Steeds, and they rid on Horse-back, three before the Chariot, and one on each side, and two behind, with stately Banners carried before, and all sorts of Musick playing; when the Empress heard the Noise, she asked what it meant; and the People said, The young Princess and all the seven wise Mistresses of *Rome* were coming to the Palace; and the Empress rejoyced exceedingly, and came out to meet them; and when the Princess was come, she said to her Mother; Hail, my most dear Royal Mother; and fell upon her Knees, and the Empress full of joy to hear her speak, took her up in her Arms and kist her: Then began the Princess to declare the whole matter before the Empress, and the whole Multitude, and she began as followeth: Most dear Mother, before I proceed, I desire that my Accuser *Radamentus*, and the Gentlemen of his Bed-

chamber

chamber do appear before us. So the Empress commanded *Radamentus* to appear with all his Men, who immediately came; then said the Princess, Most dear Mother, behold the young Gentleman that standeth there in Black, who is Favorite to *Radamentus*, above all others, command him to be stript before us all. Said the Empress, That will be a shame to us. Nay, said the Princess, be the shame to those that deserve it; and when he was unclothed, he was known to be a Woman, to the Admiration of all.

The Complaint of the Princess against Radamentus.

THen said the Princess to her Mother, Behold this Fornicator and this Whore, who hath commonly lain with him in his Bed, committing the foul Sin of Fornication; which thing he would also have committed with me in the Garden, and because I would not consent to his filthy Lust, he ran out crying, he had seen me lying with a Man under the Fig-tree, and thereby complained unjustly against me, seeking all possible means how to take my Life away; Therefore, most gracious Mother, give me leave to reprove him of all his grievous Slanders, and false Accusations, word by word; and I beseech you to hear me patiently. When you sent for me at his Request, I beheld the Stars, by which I knew that if I should have spoken to you, or any other, within seven days, 'twas decreed I should die a shameful Death, for which cause I did forbear to speak until this present. When the Empress heard her Daughter so just and learnedly vindicate the Truth, she said to *Radamentus*, O wicked wretch, was not thy Concubine enough to satisfie thy foul and lecherous Appetite, but wouldst have had to do with my only Daughter? Then *Radamentus* fell to the ground and begg'd pardon; but the Empress said, O ungrate-

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ful Traytor, thou dost ask Mercy, but thou shalt find none, for the Law shall be upon thee, even unto a shameful Death as thou hast deserved.

Then said the Princess, Most gracious Mother, it was told you by this wretched Caitiff, that I should by the help of my Mistresses, endeavour your Destruction, and assume the Government to my self. Alas, I should more rather use all the Art and Skill I have, to help and support you in all your Government about your Empire, and repute you my Sovereign, since I have from you all my Living and Maintenance, not to deprive you of your Dignity, for in your Honour do I glory. Then said the Empress, Blessed be Almighty God, that I have a good and learned Daughter, that I find so expert in all Arts and Sciences; therefore declare to me one Example whereby I may understand thy Wisdom perfectly, then shall I have Joy of thee, and my heart will be satisfied. Then said the Princess gracious Mother, command silence among the People, that all may hear me, and when I have ended, give Sentence according to Law upon me and *Radamentus*. When the Hall was silenced, the Princess began as followeth:

The Example of Sabrina, *the Empress's Daughter.*

THere was a Queen which had but one Daughter, whom she loved as she did her life; therefore she delivered her to a wise Mistress to be brought up, and be instructed in all vertuous Learning and Wisdom: and when she had been with her Mistress a certain while, her Mother had a desire to see her, and sent Letters to the Mistress to bring home her Daughter; when she came, she appeared to her Mother, so expert in Learning, comely in Behaviour, and amiable unto all, that the Queen rejoyced exceedingly: and it happened on a

time,

time, as she delivered a Bowl of Wine to her Mother, the Queen looked upon the Wall and saw the shadow of a Hand, which wrote three Lines in an unknown Tongue, and the Queen began to fear greatly, and said, Happy were that Person that could Interpret what that Writing meant; then her Daughter said, If it may not offend the Queen, I could give the true Interpretation thereof: And the Queen said, Speak on, my good Daughter; and the Child said, Most honoured Mother, this Writing doth signifie, that I shall become a mighty Princess, and shall be honoured of all People, especially my own Mother, who shall bring me a Bowl of Wine, and bow three times and kneel in the delivery of it. And the Queen said, Thou shalt never be honoured so of me, nor have such Service; therefore she commanded her Servants to take her into a Forrest far from the Court, and there slay her, and bring her heart to shew her, that she may know the truth of her death.

So the Servants took her away to the Forrest, and having compassion on so sweet a Child, said among themselves,

selves, Let us deceive the Queen in the bloody Act and save the Child, and we will put her in this hollow Tree, and kill a Lamb of the Mountain and bring the Heart to the Queen, and which accordingly they did and the Queen believed it was the Heart of her Daughter, saying, Prophecies sometimes prove not true. And it chanced that on the Morrow after, a strange Knight happened to Hunt in the Forrest where the Child was to be slain, and his Dogs barked about the Tree, where the Queen's Daughter was: At last the Knight looked in the hollow of the Tree, and there he espied a young Girl of such incomparable Beauty, that his Eyes never beheld a fairer, which made him suspect that she was of some noble Race; and so he commanded his Servants to be careful of her, and bring her into his own Country, where he did bring her up in all learned Arts and Sciences, and with Royal Attendants, till at last her Fame began to ring throughout the whole Kingdom, for Vertue, Beauty and Learning; and the Emperor of that Land being very youthful, came to that Knight's House for to view her. And no sooner did he behold her, but he was smitten with the Inflamation of Love, and after dinner he danced with her, and in the evening he married, and brought her in great Triumph and Solemnity home to his own Court. And after that, the three Eastern Kings hearing of her Fame, came to see her Beauty, and to bring her presents: Thus for three years she lived with her Husband, the Emperor, in all Joy and Happiness, and then he died, leaving the whole Empire unto her, who was then called the Empress of *Blodermaria*. When she was thus in the height of all her Glory, viewed the Firmament, and perceived by her Skill in Astrology, how her Mother that day was deposed by the Prince of *Moravia*, of Crown and Kingdom, and banished out of her Country; and laying to Heart the distressed Condition her Mother was in, had com-

compassion on her (for pure nature will never fail a[illegible]y) and therefore she raised a brave and mighty Army, and marched towards her Mother's Country: which News did flye before her, that it was told the Queen her Mother, the great Empress of *Blodermario* was coming to her Assistance; which made the Queen rejoyce, and wonder greatly, knowing she had never any Correspondency with her before; wherefore she went to meet her, and when she came before the great Empress, she fell down upon her Knees, and said, O great Empress, have I merited so great Honour and Favour, that your most excellent Majesty hath vouchsafed to come in Person, and establish me again in my Kingdom! Then the Empress took her up and bade her come into the Chariot to her, and when they came home to the Court, the Queen brought the Empress a Bowl of Wine and bowed three times, and fell down upon her Knees to present it: then the Empress commanded her Servants to depart the room, and then she asked the Queen what Children she had; and the Queen answered, she had one Daughter, but she was dead. Then the Empress said, Tell me true, did she die a natural death or no? Tell me the truth, for I swear by my Crown, you shall come to no Dammage. Then the Queen answered, Most glorious Princess, I brought up my Daughter in all vertuous Learning, Arts and Sciences, that for her Wisdom and comely Behaviour she was honoured of all People, and beloved of every one; she was my only Delight, and in her absence was my greatest Sorrow, that without her presence I was discontent: when I was wont to sit down to Meals, she was always at my Elbow, to give me a Bowl of Wine when I should please to call for it; for the pleasantest Draught that ever I drank was out of her hand. And it happened upon a time as I sat at dinner, my Daughter waited upon me, and as she bare a Bowl of Wine to my hand, there

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appeared the Shadow of an Arm upon the Wall, and it wrote these Lines to the great Astonishment of us all: and I beheld it my self, and said, That Person was happy which could interpret there Lines that were written upon the Wall by a secret and unknown Hand, that none but the Divine Powers knew of. Having thus spoken, my Daughter stood up and spake unto me in these words, If it may please my most dear and reverend Mother, not to be offended with me, I could read those Lines upon the Wall, and interpret them, and give you the true meaning thereof. Then I answered and said, Speak on, my Daughter, and you shall find whether I shall be angry or no. The Lines upon the Wall written are in several Languages, but the Interpretation doth predict or signifie, that I shall become a mighty Princess, and be honoured by all People, especially by my own Parents; for the time shall come, that my Mother shall present a Bowl of Wine to me, and bow three times, and deliver it upon her Knees. When the young Lady had thus made an end of declaring the Interpretation of the Lines that were written upon the Wall, I was then very wroth, and said to my self thus, I will never be so serviceable to my own Daughter surely; and being in my fury, I called my Servants and commanded them to take her privately away, and conveigh her to the Forrest of *Bazar*, and there destroy her; and for satisfaction thereof, to bring her Heart and shew it unto me; which accordingly was done, and she is dead; which for the reason you have heard I did destroy her.

Then said the Empress, You might well think it was much in vain to strive against the Determinations of the holy Will of God; for now you shall know of truth, that what is decreed in Heaven above, the force of Mortals can never frustrate below upon Earth, therefore be it known to you, that I am your Daughter whom

you

you ſuppoſed to have been dead, and by the Providence of God I have been preſerved, the Lord putting into the Hearts of your Servants not to ſlay me, but to put me in a hollow Tree, where a Knight chanced to come that way a hunting, his Dogs did run and incompaſſed the ſaid Tree round about, howling and crying, whereby the Knight looking into ſee what the reaſon was of his Dogs making ſuch a howling he there found me: The Servants alſo to ſatisfie your implacable wrath againſt me, that you commanded to bring my Heart, to let you ſee the Execution was effected, they ſlew a Lamb on the ſide of the Mountain and preſented the Heart to you. The good Knight alſo that found me in the Tree carried me into his own Country, and preſented me to the Emperor, where I was not long before I was eſpouſed to him his Wife, and advanced to the Royal Dignity of an Empreſs: And his moſt excellent Majeſty ſoon after deceaſed, and left me ſole Heir to his Empire, in which Honour and Glory I now remain. The Queen hearing theſe words, being raviſhed with Joy, and all amazed fell down to the Earth in a ſwound, whom the Empreſs lovingly took up in her Arms, ſaying, Now you ſhall know that my Exaltation and Dignity accrews to your Glory, Joy, and Profit; ſo they kiſt each other: Then the Queen began to weep, but the Empreſs ſaid, Weep not, my moſt dear and reverend Mother, for you are reſtored to your Crown and Kingdom, whereby you ſhall be honoured of all People above me during my Life and Reign. And afterwards there was a great Feaſt prepared, and all the Nobles and Barons of the Land aſſembled together to Congratulate and Joy with the young Empreſs, in magnificent Shows and Triumphs. After the great Day was over, and the Celebration ended, the young Empreſs ſent her Heraulds throughout all the Kingdom, to the Dukes and Princes, to repair to her Mother's Royal

al Standard, and render their Duty and Obedience to her Majesty, and to set the Crown again upon her Head. And after she had settled her Mother in a firm and flourishing Peace, she departed in great Honour and Glory and returned into her own Empire.

Here follows the Application of the Example.

THen said *Sabrina* to the Empress her Mother, Understand you, Madam, what I have said? Yes, right well, said the Empress. Then said the Daughter, Most worthy Mother, tho' God hath endued me with Learning and Wisdom so far above others, yet it shall rather be applied to the supporting of your Honour and Dignity, than to the impairing of your glorious Majesty: Like as the greatest Empress in the very height of all Honour, though formerly her Mother did seek her Destruction, she did not infringe her Mother's Perogative, but on the contrary, she helped her and inlarged her Dominions. Nay, when her Mother was banisht from her Realm, she restor'd her again to her Kingdom, and put the Diadem upon her Head; and by her great Strength and potent Power, caused all the bordering Princes round about to live in Fear of her most excellent Majesty. And as long as the Empress lived, her Mother was honoured above her, and enjoyed her Kingdom in a flourishing Peace and Tranquility. Then the Empress took her Daughter by the Hand and led her up to the upper end of the Hall, and placed her in a Chair of State upon her right Hand; then she assembled all her Nobles and Barons, and Privy-Counsellors, both Ladies and Gentlemen, and before them all spake thus to her Daughter:

My dearly beloved Daughter, I have not without great Joy heard you all this while, declare unto me, the Jewel of my Delight, that is, your skilful Arts and

Sci-

Sciences, your good and able Perfections, just and modest Behaviour in a wise and Princely Deportment, which is no small Comfort for me to see and hear; and give me leave to tell you, my prudent Child, that since it hath pleased the Divine Powers to accomplish you with so many Graces which adorn your Princely Person, as a Lilly doth the sweet and delightful Vallies; so I hope that all my Lords and Barons here assembled, will to your Assistance, as to the undoubtful Heir of this Empire, sit as Olive-branches about your Counsel-Table; for by your learned Narration to me declared, I do perceive you are able to take upon you the Government of this Empire, and to sit in the glorious Chair of Judgment, which so many of your Noble Ancestors have possessed before you; whereof they did Equalize, at least did never exceed you in learned Parts or State-affairs, for you do wear the Head-piece of Vertue, the Touch stone of Justice, and a Body Politick: Therefore I do declare unto you all my Nobles, here assembled, that in my Opinion and good Discretion, I do think it best for me, being now well stricken in Years, to leave this tedious Business of an Empire, and betake me to my rest, whereby I may prepare for another Crown; for I have lived to see many golden Days, and many others of Tribulation; now it is high time for me to lay down my Scepter in Peace, and my Crown in rest, for my Daughter is grown up to a firm Maturity, and well doth deserve the Lawrel. Moreover, it will fill my Bones with Content and Joy, to see the Crown flourish upon her Head before I go to my Grave.

Then after the Empress had ended her Speech, all the Lords of the Counsel stood up and said, Most gracious Empress, we do all think ourselves happy this Day, that it hath pleased your excellent Majesty to declare so much your Will and Pleasure unto us; far be it from the Heart of any of your noble Subjects this Day here

present, to derograte or disanul the least Tittle of what your Majesty's most gracious Pleasure is, but as willingly do ratifie, confirm, and establish every Word or Syllable contained herein, as willingly as ever we plac'd the Royal Diadem upon your Head: And we do here unanimously, and with a general Consent, First, with your gracious Leave and Pleasure, we do ordain and acknowledge the Princess, your Daughter, to be our Sovereign Lady and Empress. And furthermore, we do ordain and appoint the ninth Day of the second Month to be celebrated for the Day of her Coronation.

And when all things were ready, and the Day come, all the Nobles of the Land appeared that Day in their Robes; the old Empress rode before in a Chariot drawn by six Horses, and two led on each side the Chariot in Cloth of State: Four and twenty Trophies or Banners were carried before. Next came the young elected Empress in an open Chariot drawn by twelve Camels, covered with Cloth of Silver all in state, and the Banner Royal was carried before the Empress's Chariot, with Trumpets sounding, and all sorts of Musick playing through all the City up to the Palace, where the young Empress alighted out of her Chariot, and walked up to the Royal Throne, guarded by her Nobles, and with a rich Canopy bore over her Head. When she came into the great Hall, she ascended up to the Royal Throne; then after the Ceremonies were ended, the Nobles put the Crown upon her Head, and the Scepter in her Hand, and before the old Empress swore their Allegiance to the young Empress: And then with great Joy and Acclamations, the People shouted and said, God save the new Empress.

Then was the old Empress brought into the Hall, where great Ceremonies and Reverence was done to her; then she ascended up to the Royal Throne, and placed she was by the young Empress upon her left Hand, and

the

the young Empress began to speak to her Mother in this manner:

Most glorious and loving Mother, it hath been your Will and Pleasure to confer upon me this Royal Dignity before your Decease, not my Ambition to desire it: But though I sit in the glorious Chair of this Empire, and govern the People now in your Life-time; yet, most dear Mother, the Name and Authority shall not depart from you as long as you live: But in all Business of Consequence that doth belong to the State, I mean those great Concernments that be most painful and laborious, to ease you thereof, I will take the pains in administring all Helps and Services that in me lieth, as it becometh a Loyal and faithful Subject, according to my bounden Duty.

When all the Nobles and Privy-Counsellors heard these worthy and heroick Expressions of their young elected Princess, they shouted all again, and gave Thanks to the Divine Powers for raising them up such a vertuous and able Governour as she, who was the Supporter of her Mother's Honour; the true Maintainer of the fundamental Laws and Priviledges, and the Glory of all the Realm. Where now we leave her in her full Power and Magistracy, prosecuting the false Judge, evil Counsellor, perjur'd and arrant Traytor, *Radamentus*.

How Judgment was given upon Radamentus, *and his Concubine, and how they were both put to Death.*

NOw when the Empress had Crowned her Daughter, and all the great Solemnity ended, she called a Council, and assembled there the Nobles, Barons, and learned Judges of the Land for the speedy Tryal of *Radamentus* and his notorious Concubine: And when they were all met together, and assembled in the Judgement-hall, the Empress and her Mother being plac'd upon the Royal Throne, and the Court sate, Procla-

mation was made, and *Radamentus* sent for; where immediately he and his Concubine were brought into the Hall, fast bound with Cords, and commanded to stand before the Bar. Then *Sabrina*, the young Empress, stood up, and in a most eloquent and learned Speech she said thus as followeth:

My Lords and Gentlemen of this honourable Senate, and also you, most grave and reverend Judges of the Land, you have heard already, and are very sensible for what *Radamentus* and his Concubine, both now Prisoners at the Bar of Justice, stand here indicted They are not brought hither for a Crime laid against them to take away their Lives wrongfully; but for a Fact which they have committed in the highest degree of Insolency, and that you very well all do know. And be it known that when I was at School with the seven wise Mistresses, (I may say of the World) and in the full practice of my Learning, this *Radamentus*, now Prisoner at the Bar, being then a very great Councellor to her Grace the Queen, my Mother, as you all do know, did instigate my Mother to send for me home, to the intent he might learn and find out a way how to entrap me, whereby to take away my Life: And to effect his horrid Conspiracy, he falsly informed my Mother that he saw me in the Palace-garden committing the foul Sin of Fornication, supposing that I could not speak and answer for my self: And hereupon he brought seven Examples to my Mother against me; and laboured very much for seven Days together, to animate my Mother against me. And the reason why I did not speak within the time of those seven Days, was, because when my Mother sent for me through his Instigation, I saw in the Planets a Fate which did predict a sad Omen to me; which was, that when I came to Court, if I did speak a word within seven Days, I should be most miserable, and be put to the most shameful Death

that ever Virgin was. Therefore to prevent his wicked Intention, I did conceal my Speech for so long; in which time my seven wise Mistresses by their learned Skill and good Discretion did labour in my behalf, and spake for me; each Mistress spake by turn each Day, and by Providence saved me: And the eight Day, by assistance of the Divine Powers, I spake and answered for my self; confuting all the shameful and wicked Accusations this hellish Monster of Mankind had contrived against me, whereby the Unjustness of his own Cause hath now heaped Vengeance upon his own Head: Moreover, the Prisoner at the Bar, in the time of my Accusation, and long before, did keep a private Concubine in stead of a young Man to wait on him, clothed in Man's Apparel, to satisfie his own lascivious Lust, and filthy Appetite; and charged me, an innocent Virgin, with all those abominable Vices and wicked Sins, that he himself daily committed in his secret Chamber; he caused me seven days one after another to be led to the Judgment-hall, where then he sate himself, and gave Sentence upon me, and caused me to be led to the Gallows shamefully, to be burnt at a Stake, for Crimes laid against me that I was innocent of. Therefore, most gracious Mother, as you are the Empress of all the Eastern Part of the World, forasmuch as I will not own the general Name till after your Decase; and all you my Lords and Barons of the Privy-Counsel, and you also, my grave and learned Judges, whose Power and Authority requireth you to do Justice upon the shameless Accuser at the Bar, *Radamentus*, and his Concubine, through whose means I was in peril of my Life, and led seven times to the Gallows to be executed.

Then *Radamentus* stood up and said, Great Princess, under whose Power and Protection the whole Realm doth now Flourish; and all you most grave and learned Counsellors and Judges, I am brought to this place to an-

answer for my Faults, and the many Misdemeanours that I have committed against the Person of your Royal Highness; I confess my self guilty, and as I stand here obliged before the Bar of Justice, I desire that your Royal Highness may consider this Service I have done for her most excellent Majesty, your Mother, in the time of your Minority: I concluded a Peace between she and the great *Cham*; twice between she and the King of *Ægypt*, and once with the great Emperor, the Lord *Belius*, in which Service I always proved a faithful Counsellor; therefore I beseech your gracious Majesty to consider, and here upon my bended Knees I beg Mercy and Forgiveness for all my Faults committed against your Royal Person; or if that will not be granted, let my Person extend so far in the Valuation of your gracious Favours, as to be only confin'd to Prison for seven Years, or otherwise during the Pleasure of your Majesty; if that may not be obtained, let it please the merciful Court to save my Life, and give me Exile and Banishment for ever, Yet all this availed nothing; for the young Princess prosecuted very severely, calling to the Judges, and saying, My Lords and Gentlemen of the Council, and ye learned Judges, of the Court, you have heard the Charge against the evil Traytor at the Bar, and have heard his Answer; for my part I grant no Pardon, but what the bare Law will give him; therefore let your wise and good Discretions guide ye in the due Administration of this remarkable Piece of Justice, whereby he may pay the due Debt which the Law requires.

The Councels and Judges hearing the Words of the Empress, were all astonisht to hear such Wisdom from a Woman. Then all the Judges and Counsellors stood up and call'd, *Radamentus*, *Radamentus*, your evil Life and Conversation is very apparent to the Court, and your hellish Conspiracies and notorious Actions

which

which here this day you are accus'd of, are publick Evidences against you at the Bar; and therefore, according to Law, we do all here, with a general Vote, pronounce Sentence against you and your Concubine, *That you shall be taken away from this place to the place from whence you came, and from thence to be drawn at two Horses Tails throughout the City, to the place of Execution, which shall be under the common Gallows, and there to be burnt to Ashes.*

These Words being ended, the Court rose up, and the Prisoners were taken away, and carried to the Prison, from whence they were taken; and on the seventh day after, they were fetched by the Officers belonging to the Empress, and tyed both of them to Horses Tails, and

so was dragged through the streets, where Multitudes of People flocked about to see them, all crying out, *Behold the horrid Traytor, behold the horrid Traytor!* so in this manner they were brought to the common Gallows, and there bound fast to a Stake with Iron-chains, ready to be burnt. Then began *Radamentus* to make his Con-

session after this manner following: *O People, behold here* Radamentus, *once a Judge, and second Ruler in the Land, whose Power extended over all the Empire, and to whom the Subjects came for Justice, and I ruled with a strict Hand, all the People knowing it very well; seven Years I sat Judge for Life and Death, and I have given Sentence upon seven hundred and sixty two Persons, who departed with their Lives in this place where I stand; I slew my Mother in my birth, my Uncle I gave Sentence upon, and I sealed the Warrant for my Father's Death; seven Days I did strongly plead for the Destruction of the Royal Princess, for which I am brought hither to suffer that Death which I have deserved long ago; therefore inlarge your Spleen against me, and give me Fire enough.*

And as the Flame began to arise, the People heard a great and lamentable Voice, as they thought, ascending out of the Earth, and it was sad and doleful to the Beholders; so that all were in a Maze, for it roar'd out, saying, Radamentus, Radamentus *is coming, make room, for the great* Radamentus *is coming*; and no sooner were these words spoke, but his Body did vanish from the Stake, and his Concubine consumed in the Flame: This was the end of the grandest Traytor and Murtherer in all the World, very fit for such a lascivious Person.

The Empress having now out-lived her Mortal Enemy, old *Radamentus*, she began a most happy and glorious Reign; her own Mother esteemed her as her only Joy; the Nobles of the Land did honour her greatly for her excellent Learning and Wisdom; the Subjects did almost adore her for the rarety of her Justice, and the moderation of her Language; her Crown then began to flourish upon her Head, and her Name began to spread over all the Face of the Earth, and the longer she did reign, the more her Glory did shine; her Mother, the old Empress, liv'd till she saw, that for her Beauty, and what for her Learning, the bordering Notions round about

bout did almoſt give Divine Reverence unto her; and in the Height of this flouriſhing Peace, the old Empreſs died, and bequeathed her own Crown and Royal Scepter to be put upon *Sabrina*'s Head in this World, and a Crown of Glory in the World to come. *Sabrina* after this did Celebrate her Funeral in the greateſt Triumph which can be imaginable; ſhe alſo erected a moſt ſumptuous Monument, wherein ſhe interred the Body of her Mother, with this Inſcription written on it:

Within this Monument interr'd here lies
The only Mother of Sabrina *Wife;*
Who councill'd was by Radamentus *ſway,*
To take Sabrina's *precious Life away:*
But Time and Fortune favour'd her at laſt,
Whoſe Life was ſav'd, and Radamentus *loſt.*

Sabrina, the young Empreſs, having buried her Mother in ſuch State, was commended above all her Predeceſſors; for never was ſuch a Monument erected before. Now *Sabrina* being Empreſs of all the Eaſtern Part of the World, began to grow very potent and great, for all People gave her Reverence, and did Homage unto her: Kings and Princes ſent her rich Preſents, and came from far Countries to viſit and compliment her; but more eſpecially to hear her grave Wiſdom, and to ſee the excellency of her Arts and Sciences, which had ſo much ſpread over the whole World; ſhe was accounted the greateſt Philoſopher that was in thoſe days in the World, ſhe continually keeping all ſorts of Profeſſors and Artificers, that ſhe might thereby know the Nature of all Vegitables as Planets, Herbs, Roots, Leaves, and Trees: She kept four thouſand Stables of Horſes, which were on purpoſe for her own Attendance; there was no Nation at War and Variance

with

with her but only one, and they were the Tartors; ſo that to prevent their Incroachment upon her moſt rich and plentiful Dominions, ſhe choſe the fifth Man out of all her Empire to build a Brazen Wall between her and her Enemies, aboat fifteen hundred Miles long, and at every ten Miles end ſhe cauſed to be built ſtrong and famous Caſtles, wherein ſhe plac'd ten thouſand Men for to keep guard againſt the ſaid Tartars, which were People inhabiting in a poor and Barren County, for they ſought not to revenge any Quarrel or Injury done to them, but meerly for ſome of the Gold and Riches this glorious *Sabrina* had, and to ſee if they could get into any of her plentiful Countries to inhabit, for all her Countries were Golden Vallies both for Profit and Pleaſure: And though this brazen Wall was built and ſtrongly made, yet the fury of the Tartors was ſo inraged, that they broke over according to the old Proverb, *Hunger will break through Stone-walls*; and for three Hours time there was a mortal Battle; but the young Empreſs *Sabrina* had a Champion in her Army called *Gorgon*, a Giant you muſt conceive he was, for he was ſeven Cubits high, his Club was like the Maſt of a Ship, his Helmet was made of Braſs, weighing an hundred Shekles of Iron; this Giant fought moſt courageouſly, and made Lanes through the Army of the Tartars, that all dreaded and feared the place where he came.

Thus the noble renowned Princeſs, became ſo famous by her own State-policy, and by the Aſſiſtance of that Gyant in victorious Battles, that moſt Princes in all that Part of the World became her Tributaries, all being in Subjection to her: And ſhe being counted the greateſt Beauty that lived in thoſe days, ſhe was obtained by *Alexander* King of *Ægypt*, and eſpouſed his Wife, that when the ſtrength of his Army, and the excellent Wiſdom of this Empreſs, were joyned in one Politick Body,

Body, they remained the sole Terrour of all the Earth for many Years together; but in the end were both deprived of Crowns and Kingdoms.

Of the great and triumphant Wedding between the young Empress and Alexander, *King of* Egypt, *and of the unfortunate Success that after ensued in his Dominions.*

NOw in the begining of *April*, when the Earth had got on her Summer Livery, and adorned with her flourishing wonted Ornaments, *Alexander* King of *Egypt* designed his Purpose to the Realm of *Epirus*, for he had heard say, there lived an Empress whose Wisdom exceeded all the Kings and Princes both far and near, and the Fame of that Empress invited him thither; and thereupon he prepared his Horses, and Chariots, with his Camels and Dromedaries laden with the richest Merchandize, Gold and Jewels, that was in all that part of the World, and prosecuted his Design until he arrived in the Kingdom of *Epirus*, where young *Sabrina* the Empress maintained her chiefest Residence; and she hearing of his coming, caused her Heraulds to proclaim in Cities, Towns, and Corporations, that the Great King of *Egypt* was coming to her Court, and also prepar'd herself in Person to meet him; she rode in a rich and stately Chariot drawn by six white Steeds, with Trappings of Gold, and twelve Ladies of Honour with Palms in their Hands on each side of the Chariot, twelve Lord Barons, march'd before, bearing rich Trophies, in each of which there was artificially wrought a Garland of Red Roses, with all sorts of Instruments of Musick: King *Alexander* espying the Banners displayed in the Air, immediately knew that it was the Empress, and thereupon commanded his Nobles to drive hard; and when the King was come near to the Empress, and beheld her in all her Glory, he

was

was astonish'd, and said to himself, *O Beauty incomparable! thou dost want nothing of all the Excellencies of a Woman; nor in thee has Nature fail'd in any thing, but that it made thee Mortal*; so in as comly a Grace, and in as brave a Deportment as ever past between King and Queen, they saluted each other, and in a most triumphant State marched unto her Royal Palace, where no Delight was wanting: The young King had not been there above a Week, but what by Beauty, and what by the most marvellous Wisdom he saw and heard from the Princess, he was even so ravished, that many times he knew not what he did; but it happened in an eveuing that *Alexander* King of *Egypt* saw the Empress walking in the Garden, and thought it a fit Opportunity to speak unto her; so stept into the Walk, and said unto the Empress, *Most amiable, beauteous, wise, and learned Madam, by your Beauty I am ravisht, and at your Wisdom I am astonisht, even that my Senses are bereaved from me! Great Goddess, if I do not obtain one Boon from your Grace, I shall live a Captive to Love, and a Bondslave to Desire; the thing which I crave is of no small Concernment.* The Empress in a most Virgin-like and comely Behaviour answer'd the King, being amorous of him also: *My gracious Lord, and renowned Prince, whatsoever your Request is, 'tis granted already.* Then said the King, *O most fair and prudential Queen, nothing do I desire more than only to make you Queen and sole Mistress of all* Egypt. The Empress being wise, considered the King to be a great Prince, amiable in Visage, wise and comely in Behaviour, granted his Request: For she understood, that matching with such a great Prince as *Alexander*, she should become the greatest Empress in the World, adding both Powers together; and thereupon she gave him her Hand upon it, and the day was appointed when the Marriage should be celebrated between these

two great Potentates; all the Kings, Princes, Dukes, and Ladies, in all the bordering Countries round about, were at the Wedding, except the King of *Syra*, who always was an Antagonist to *Alexander*, whom all those Princes now began to fear, in regard his Dominions were so inlarged by the Marriage with the wise Empress; and his Power began to increase so, that he swayed the one half of the World; but his Enemy, the King of *Syra*, swayed the other, so that between them both the whole Universe was governed. The Marriage being ended, never King nor Queen did flourish in more Peace and Unity for seven Years than they did, for through the daily company of this wise and renowned Empress, *Alexander* was much bettered, and by her Wisdom his was illuminated, and she made him a body Politick, insomuch that he would be inquisitive of all Ambassadors to know the Nature of their Countries, the Disposition of their People, the Majesty of their Kings, and the Ways of their Wars. He always kept a great Army, but under strict Orders, and much Severity; he was feared by all the Kings about him, only the King of *Syra*, who daily watcht how he might surprize him; he was lovely, valiant, and discreet; he was courteous to all People, loving to his Empress, of whom he had begot two Sons; his Love did always burn, and extended so far towards his Empress that being in *Ægypt* upon a time, leaving his Empress in *Epirus*, he would every Morning run up to the top of a Mountain, and look stedfastly towards *Epirus*, and would send this Message to her by the Moon feignedly:

OH! sweet Sabrina *by Heavens divine protection,*
We loved, we liked, we link'd our dear affection;
And with the Solemn power of an Oath,
In presence of the better Gods, we both
Exchanged our Hearts, in witness of this thing;
I gave and she received this dear Ring, *Which*

Which now I wear, by which she did resign
Her Heart to me, for which I gave her mine:
From my fix'd Heart there's nothing can diſminiſh,
No Fortune can diſſolve, no Death can finiſh.
Oh! when ſhall I thy preſence once behold,
Deſir'd by me more then refined Gold;
Oh! When ſhall we imbrace on Cupid's *Bed,*
When Roſes, and freſh Myrtles there are ſpread
Under the Cooler ſhade of Cypres *Groves,*
To bill, and Coo like Venus *Turtle-doves;*
And injoy all things that ever may delight,
Nature, or unreſtrained Appetite.

Theſe and ten thouſand ſuch Expreſſions this brave and noble King *Alexander* did uſe towards his renowned and vertuous Empreſs; but Fortune not willing to favour him, did caſt a Cloud over this Pattern of Vertue, for no ſooner had he left this Kingdom of *Ægypt*, and arriv'd again in *Epirus*, but there came a Herauld at Arms from the King of *Syra* to challenge him to the Field, that upon the happy Succeſs of one Battle the whole Univerſe lay on't, for they two governed all the other Kings in the World: *Alexander* with a brave couragious Spirit anſwered the Herauld, *I look't for the King of* Syra *in the Field long ago; I wonder his Charriot-wheels are ſo heavy in driving; and bid him meet upon the Downs of* Opher, *where I will be in Perſon to aſſail him and his ten Religions*; and preſently commanded his Drums to beat, and his Trumpet to ſound, and other Inſtruments of War, and ſo marched out with his Army, taking his leave of his Royal Princeſs, and his two Sons, with Showers of Tears betwixt them both, ſo parted the one from the other with heavy Hearts. When brave King *Alexander* was arrived upon the Downs of *Opher*, he plac'd his Men in Battle-array, and began to admoniſh them in theſe Words: *Moſt brave and warlike Soldiers,*

both Epirans and Ægyptians, I exhort you this day to be of good Courage, and fight manfully, your Cause is just and right: For the Syrans are coming against us without Cause, and we are upon our Defence, and this great Battle is the Battle for the whole World; in the very heat of the Battle think to yourselves that you do see the grave Senators of Epirus *bowing down their hoary Heads, praying for your good Success; think that you do hear the Prayers of your Fathers, Mothers, Wives, and Children for you; and know that whosoever intends to see their Friends again, must this time ransom himself with his Sword: Think to yourselves that if the Syrans doth vanquish us, how that my Head will be placed upon a Poll, and pitch'd up in the Market-place, and my Quarters hang up, two in* Ægypt *and two in* Epirus; *our Cities and Towns burnt and turned to Ashes, our Maidens and Virgins deflowred, our Childrens Brains dasht against the Walls, and our young Men slain and murthered, and the Brand of Scorn upon our Kingdoms for Perpetuity: And on the other side, if we do get the Day, Honour and Renown shall be upon our Heads, and the Glories of* Syra *shall come into* Epirus; *Gold and Silver shall be your Rewards, and the Favour of your Prince you shall have to Eternity.* The Soldiers answered, *Most great King if the Gold of* Ophir *will make you glorious, if the Treasures of* Syra *will make you great, and if the Strength of our Army will make you considerable both at home and abroad, be assured, great King, you are this day the Master of all the Universe; for here is not a Soldier but at you command will cut his Father's throat, and sheath his sword in his Brother's Blood, rob the Gods, and pulls the Temples down, all this will they do if you command them.*

By this time there was but a Field's breath between the two Armies, all Rampiers, Trees and Hedges were levelled even with the ground; Lyons and Bears were seen to come out of the Woods, as of purpose to devour

vour dead Carkaſſes; Vultures, which are ravening Birds, did darken the Air; Lighting and Thunder came down that did melt the Heads of the Foot-mens Spears, ſinged the hair on their Heads, and the Horſe Manes; King *Alexander* divided his Army into four Parts, his right Wing conſiſted of ten thouſand, conducted by ten Kings, the Forlorn hope were five thouſand, the left Wing were ten thouſand, conducted by three Epirian Lords, the Main Body was led by brave *Alexander* himſelf; the Battle began hot and ſharp, the Forlorn-hopes of the Epirians were driven back to the main Body; then advanced *Alexander* himſelf, and the Battle began to be mortal; the Diſpute did hold till twelve a Clock, and there fell on both ſides about eight Thouſand: In the Afternoon the Battle began again, and the Diſcomfeiture fell upon the Epirians; for in four Hours time *Alexander* was fain to quit the Field, being totally defeated, the Giant and moſt of his Men ſlain. *Alexander* was fain to throw his Crown upon the Ground, becauſe he would not be known, and eſcaped by Sea in a poor Fiſherman's Boat, and ſailed into *Epirus*, and at the Haven where he deſigned to land, there his Royal Empreſs was waiting when any Ship would come in with News; and at laſt ſhe eſpied in a poor Fiſherman's Boat King *Alexander* himſelf, at which ſight Fear ſmote her to the Heart, that ſhe ſwouned upon the thought that the King was utterly overthrown; but *Alexander* took her up in his Arms and kiſt her, with a ſhower of Tears, bedewing their Princely Cheeks; but there was no Remedy, for their Kingdoms were wreſted from them, and they forced to fly unto an uninhabited Iſland, wherein they ſpent the remant of their Days with three other petty Kings. Soon after *Alexander* died, and his Empreſs, who, in a Sepulchre which he hewed out himſelf, were both interred, on which was written this following Epitaph:

Within this Houſe of Stone here lies
The King of Ægypt, *who was call'd, The Wiſe;*
Likewiſe that glorious and Illuſtrious Queen
Of the Epirians here is to be ſeen;
Who from all Right and Juſtice were debarr'd,
When Syrans King in Battle with him Warr'd.

FINIS.

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